

THE JOURNAL

Friday, November 23, 2001

50 cents (tax included)

Man About Town Square wheels and circular talk [A3]

Arts The 'Nutcracker' marches on [C3]

EL CERRITO BUSINESSES SEEK THE RIGHT FIT



PASTIME ACE HARDWARE employee Dana Middleton helps customer Balbir Singh find the right electrical connection to fix his lamp. An emphasis on personal service has helped the longtime El Cerrito business thrive in the face of competition from 'big-box' retailers.

Albany tennis courts slated for facelift

■ The Memorial Park courts were sidelined during construction of the new high school

By Matt Petersen
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Expect a bevy of lobs and volleys at the Memorial Park tennis courts come July 2002 at the latest, now that the City Council has unanimously approved a repair and resurfacing project that will keep the courts at their current location.

The approval Monday assures that the courts will not be moved closer to Portland Avenue as was proposed in past meetings. Instead, the four courts will have a new surface, netting and possibly a lighting upgrade by next summer.

"I think we'll have a much better product than we did four years ago," said Councilman Jon Ely, who admitted that he was amazed at the lack of damage caused by the construction crews. He said later, "The condi-

tion at the time was not pristine." At two meetings in September and October, neighborhood residents spoke on a number of different proposals for the park, which has needed sprucing up since 1997. That is when the school district put portables on the courts to house students while the new high school was being built.

After the portables were lifted last July, ideas ranging from moving the courts to another location, to moving two of the four courts elsewhere, to keeping them where they are while lengthening two of the non-regulation northern courts were discussed at the following meetings.

The estimated cost of the project is just over \$165,000. The school district will be pitching in \$100,000 per the lease agreement for using the space. Another \$40,000 was authorized out of the city's 2001-02 landscaping budget, which leaves more than a \$25,000 shortfall.

Recreation and Community

See TENNIS, Page A9

Hardware store finds key to survival in big-box world

By Jennifer Kho
CORRESPONDENT

EL CERRITO — Rich Pryde, part owner of Pastime Hardware, smiled contentedly as he peered through an office window at aisles filled with jars of cement grackle, cleansers, wrenches, nuts, circle cutters and screwdriver bits.

"This store is huge to my family," he said.

The tan-paneled San Pablo Avenue store with its red accents and irregularly checkered floor has been part of the El Cerrito community since Pryde's father and uncle, Donald and Norman Pryde, opened it in 1940.

Now about 35 people work at the store. Nine of them are family members. Rich Pryde, his brother Robert and his cousins, David and Donald, are the current owners. Their children all work in the store.

They and their staff are on a first-name basis with many of the customers, and many of the regulars know each other. Pastime regularly donates merchandise to schools, traditionally contributing to El Cerrito High School's graduations and homecomings, and they donate merchandise and sometimes money to charities and church raffles.

"It's a place where people

meet," Pryde said. "I mean, it's not your local café — it's better, because we have more customers. People don't come here to meet, but they bump into each other a lot. A lot of times you'll be waiting on a customer and the next thing you know, they're talking with another customer."

But in 1992, the family got news that small-hardware-store owners across the nation dread: The Home Depot was opening a store on the same street.

"We heard they were opening and of course, we could see them building it when we'd drive by doing other things," Pryde said.

Pryde said he worried that

The Home Depot wouldn't leave Pastime Hardware with enough business to support his children's potential careers at the store.

"We had heard horror stories about little hardware stores going out of business because of Home Depot," he said. "We were worried. We thought about it a lot."

They decided to prepare for the blow they expected to suffer from The Home Depot by attending ACE Hardware seminars to learn how small businesses could compete with giants like The Home Depot.

See PASTIME, Page A10

Poll shows support of West County school bond

■ Voters say they're willing to give the district \$300 million to repair buildings and reduce class sizes

By Kara Shire
STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — One year after passing a \$150 million school bond, West County voters appear poised to give the school district another \$300 million to fix dilapidated school buildings and reduce class sizes.

Seventy-two percent of voters in a recent poll commissioned by the school district said they would "definitely" or "probably" vote yes on a \$300 million bond measure if it were on the March ballot.

School board members, delighted with the strong community backing, hastily decided last week to try to put the bond on the March ballot. A special meeting is expected in coming weeks

to decide the matter.

"In my wildest imagination, I would have never thought this community would support a \$300 million bond measure," said board member Charles Ramsey.

The poll, taken in early November, asked 500 West County voters what they thought the most pressing needs of the district were, and what they saw as the top school priorities.

Poll results have a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Most voters, 68 percent, said the greatest need facing West County schools was improving literacy. Fifty-six percent said the greatest need was more money for public schools, and 55 percent said the greatest need was improving school buildings.

Forty-one percent said the condition of schools had improved recently, thanks to repairs paid for with Measure M bond

See BOND, Page A9

El Cerrito's commercial face changes with arrivals

■ Long-awaited economic development has brought a generic feeling to the city, some say

By Todd Dayton
CORRESPONDENT

EL CERRITO — Skeletal wood framing offers a glimpse of what a refurbished El Cerrito Plaza will look like in the months to come. Bed Bath & Beyond and Ross opened their doors in August. El Cerrito's reborn shopping mecca is taking shape.

Along the city's main commercial boulevard, San Pablo Avenue, things are changing, too. The mom-and-pop businesses that once lined the street are slowly disappearing. Some merchants aren't thrilled with the



THE REMODELED El Cerrito Plaza sports a new sign with the names of stores already open and some still to come.

new face of El Cerrito. Others wonder how much longer they can hold out as big-box retailers like Target and Home Depot move in.

"Over the years, El Cerrito has lost some character," said Bob D. Gerner, the 55-year-old owner of El Cerrito Natural Grocery Company on San Pablo and lifetime resident of the Richmond Annex, which borders El Cerrito just west of San Pablo Avenue.

Gerner recalls his childhood when San Pablo Avenue was lined with gambling halls and card rooms that drew El Cerrito's

working-class residents.

"It definitely had character," said Gerner. "El Cerrito Plaza was the dog track."

Gerner feels that new development has changed the face of the small city, making El Cerrito just another Everytown where Blockbuster and Walgreens are the local landmarks.

"Then again, maybe this is the new America," he said.

A shrinking strip of independent shops along the mile of San Pablo between El Cerrito Plaza and Del Norte Plaza still testifies to the homegrown nature of

many of the town's businesses.

A storefront with peeling paint and the simple name "Buttons" above the door opens up to counters stocked with odd buttons and sewing supplies.

Vacuum World occupies a lackluster spot in an aging building, right across the street from the site of El Cerrito founder William Rust's long-gone blacksmith shop. El Cerrito was once called Rust, but citizens renamed the city when it incorporated in 1917.

See CHANGES, Page A10

Groups approved to get reduced rate at city venues

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The City Council approved 10 local organizations for city co-sponsorship this week, but specified that the co-sponsorship does not come with any funds at this time. Co-sponsored organizations are able to use city-owned facilities at a reduced rate.

Seven of the organizations — the El Cerrito Youth Soccer Club, El Cerrito Youth Baseball, El Cerrito Tennis Club, El Cerrito Art Association, El Cerrito Garden Club, El Cerrito Historical Society and the El Cerrito Bridge Club — asked for use of city facilities such as playing fields and the Community Center as permitted by co-sponsorship rates in accordance with the city's master fee schedule.

Co-sponsorship was also approved for the annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, the El Cerrito Rotary Club's annual Fourth of July celebration and Celebrating Culture & Community's Multicultural Sister Cities Parade and Festival.

For the past 12 years the city has co-sponsored the annual

King Day celebration. City's recreation director Monica Kortz said in her report to the council that the sponsoring organizations would like to receive assistance from the police and fire departments, the public works and recreation departments and use of the Community Center at no charge.

For the past 12 years the El Cerrito Rotary Club has also worked with the city to sponsor the annual Fourth of July celebration. Kortz said the Rotary Club would like to use Cerrito Vista Park and the Community Center at no charge as well as receive support from the city's police, fire and recreation departments.

She noted that each year the club contributes funds to offset maintenance costs — this year's contribution was \$800. Kortz said CC&C will request grant funding for its annual parade and festival during next year's budget process. Eve Ma, president of CC&C, said she is not sure how much the group will seek from the city, but said it would be a

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KNIGHT RIDDER

INFORMATION FOR LIFE

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Creeks, art, community

Dancer and storyteller Patricia Bullitt and community artist Jeff Norman will speak and show slides on the intersections between art, creeks, the environment, and community at Friends of Five Creeks monthly meeting, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3 at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. Details: 510-848-9358, e-mail fscreeks@aol.com, or see www.fivecreeks.org.

Lawyer in the Library

In cooperation with the American Bar Association, the Albany Library offers "Lawyer in the Library" the first Tuesday of every month from 6-8 p.m. A local attorney will consult to define your problem, advise you of your options, get you started with a solution, and make a referral (usually low cost) when needed. Sign up at the Library's reference desk for a 15 minute session by calling 526-3720, ext 5 or by stopping by. Appointments are still available for Nov. 6 and Dec. 4.

Toddler Time at library

The Friends of the Albany Library present a new series: Toddler Time, for ages 16 to 36 months. The stories and stretches for little ones take place at the library Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 6, 13, 20, and 27. Sign up at the

children's desk, or call 510-526-3720.

Celebrate Chanukah

Celebrate Chanukah at the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St. in Berkeley from 2:30-5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 9. Ira Levin will be performing music for the whole family and there will be holiday craft-making for all ages, latkes, Chanukah cookies and more. Bring an unwrapped toy or book to wrap and donate to a family in need. The free event is co-sponsored by Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, Kehilla Community Synagogue and Chabad of the East Bay. For more information, call 510-848-0237, ext. 110.

Muslim culture celebration

The community is invited to "A Celebration of the Diverse Cultures of our Muslim Families: From Indonesia to Morocco to Albany" on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 3-6 p.m. at the Ocean View Elementary School cafeteria, 1000 Jackson, Albany. The Albany elementary school PTAs invite the community to a gathering featuring arts and crafts, storytelling, and sharing about Ramadan and other traditions of local families. Program starts promptly at 3, ends at 6. Muslim Thai food served after sunset. \$5 suggested donation. RSVP to susanmoffat@sprinmail.com

or 525-3125.

Homework help

The Albany Library announces the opening of their new Homework Center. High school students provide homework assistance in math and science for middle school and high school students. The center is free and open from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday. The library is located at 1247 Marin Ave. in Albany. Details: 510-526-3720, ext. 19.

Albany chamber mixer

The Albany Chamber of Commerce will have its annual holiday party Tuesday, Dec. 5, at Mechanics Bank, 801 San Pablo. This is one of the best mixers of the year. The party, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., is a great way to network and get to know local officials. Bring your business cards for the drawing, and a big appetite. Details: 525-1771.

'Lazy Person's Gardening'

Learn how to relax and enjoy your garden when Bonnie Bruseau, shares gardening tips and shortcuts following the Berkeley Garden Club's 1 p.m. business meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 20 at Epworth United Methodist Church, 1953 Hopkins St., Berkeley. Guests are welcome. The program is free.

No place like home for the holidays

For the first time in memory, the holidays did not arrive too soon. A once-in-a-century meteor shower announced the coming celebration. And soon, on Solano and San Pablo avenues in Albany, the night will sparkle with as much luster as shooting stars, storefronts glistening with bright lights, the spirit of the season captured by works of art created by children from Marin School.

If what you want — what you need — is a good-old-fashioned holiday experience, take the kids, grandpa and grandma, your sweetheart, or just yourself, bundle up in a wool sweater and go window-shopping in Albany. And while you're there, stop for a piece of pie, a hot cocoa, a cappuccino, a glass of cabernet, or something more exotic — because it is all here, right smack dab in the middle of metropolitan. And count your lucky stars because that's where you'll be — out beneath the winter sky where you belong ...

CHAMBER MUSIC: There are four new chamber members this month, a wonderful mix of stores and shops that capture Albany's diversity.

In the Northbra area, there's a wonderful little kiosk called Heidee's Flowers and Gifts. Planted on the corner of Gilman Street and Santa Fe, flowers cascade through the windows of the delightful shop. Owner Heidee Doroudy-Ahi, our newest member, has an incredible eye for color, infinite patience and an honest grace that cannot help but comfort you. Heidee and her husband, George, both have a charming Old World manner, and both are artists — Heidee an actress,

JAMES CARTER
Albany Chamber Notes

George a playwright and director. You will walk away from Heidee's with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a smile. See for yourself: Heidee's Flowers and Gifts, 1275 Gilman, 510-528-1894.

WHILE YOU ARE SHOPPING on Solano Avenue during our late-night Thursdays and Fridays, (many shops will remain open later than usual), be sure to stop by the aptly named Eunice Gourmet, 1162 Solano, for something special to eat — be it breakfast, lunch, or dinner: This is gourmet food. Try the carrot ginger soup — it is extraordinary. Eunice Gourmet (named after Young and Jenny's 5-year-old daughter) features garden-fresh salads, homemade soups, and fresh-baked bread — sandwiches with feta and gouda and brie, fresh Roma tomatoes and artichoke hearts, Greek olives, red onions, fresh basil, turkey avocado garlic herb ... Then there are the pastries — lemon curd and raspberry Danish, peach-blackberry scones. And 16 flavors of gelato! Having a party? They cater!

ALBANY is a wonderful place to raise a family. For young couples just getting started, stop by the Birth and Bonding Family Center, 1126 Solano Ave., another new member of the Chamber. Sharon Ledbetter offers childbirth educational services, classes ranging from pregnancy to birth to postpartum to breastfeeding. That's right.

There are mother-baby support groups — which include dads, too. Sharon studied prenatal psychology, and raised two children, tying in the theoretical with the infinitely practical. The Birth and Bonding Center also carries strollers, maternity and nursing apparel, and car seats, to name just a few essential items, a full line of books, and a lending library, too. People used to say, "They don't give classes teaching you how to be a parent." Sharon does.

THEN THERE IS THE IVY ROOM, 860 San Pablo Ave., near Solano — another new Chamber member. The Ivy Room is largely credited with introducing live music into Albany's growing night scene. Blues bands like Rusty Zinn, and Mal Sharpe — a New Orleans Dixieland Jazz group — perform on Friday and Saturday nights, along with rockabilly acts and others — and on Tuesday night, too! The jukebox at the Ivy Room was recently voted the best "roots" box in the Bay Area. Shoot pool or try your hand at shuffleboard. This is the way bars used to be. Drinks are generously poured at the Ivy Room, a bar where everyone may not know your name, but will within an hour. For information regarding venues, call the 24-hour hotline, 510-524-9299.

POLICE REPORTS

Another arrest for passing bogus bills

By K. Osborn
CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — At about 3:30 a.m. on Nov. 12 officers contacted a 31-year-old Richmond woman in the north lot at Golden Gate Fields for suspicious activity. Upon investigation officers learned that the woman had been involved in the passing of counterfeit money at an Albany bar the previous morning. She was arrested for conspiracy, burglary and passing counterfeit money and taken to the Santa Rita jail.

■ On Nov. 12 officers responded to the 1400 block of Solano Avenue on reports of a man walking up and down Solano Avenue and bothering people. Officers contacted the 39-year-old Richmond man and found him to have an Oakland warrant in the amount of \$324. He was arrested.

■ On Nov. 13 officers responded to the 700 block of Madison Street on reports from neighbors of a loud disturbance at a house on the block. Officers contacted a 58-year-old Albany woman who was intoxicated and causing a disturbance. She was arrested for disorderly conduct.

■ At about 7 a.m. on Nov. 13 officers responded to the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a man threatening people with a knife. Officers arrested a 58-year-old Berkeley man for fighting and threatening people and trans-

ported him to Highland Hospital.

■ On Nov. 13 a resident on the 800 block of Madison Street reported thieves stole items from her maroon '91 Toyota Camry after smashing a window.

■ On Nov. 13 a resident on the 1100 block of Stannage Avenue reported that thieves stole items from her Toyota pickup.

■ On Nov. 14 officers were flagged down by a couple on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue. The couple had been fighting and wanted assistance. A check revealed that the 43-year-old El Cerrito man was on probation from Oakland and intoxicated. He was arrested and transported to Alta Bates Hospital. The 41-year-old El Cerrito woman was also intoxicated. She was arrested for battery and DUI.

■ On Nov. 15 a Berkeley woman reported that thieves had stolen her unlocked red, white and blue Lemond bicycle while she was in a business on the 400 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ On the morning of Nov. 16 a resident at 555 Pierce Street reported that thieves had broken into her white Honda Accord and gained access to the ignition switch in an attempt to steal the car. They were unsuccessful and departed. A silver Honda Accord was also broken into in the same area. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 10:45 a.m. on Nov. 16 officers stopped a brown '78

Ford Mustang near Washington Street and Santa Fe Avenue on a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 29-year-old San Francisco man, was found to have an outstanding warrant for battery in the amount of \$30,000. He was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, cited and released on Notice to Appear.

■ On the morning of Nov. 16 a resident on the 1000 block of Neilson Street reported that thieves had broken into her '90 Toyota Corolla during the night. There were no witnesses.

■ On the night of Nov. 16 a resident on the 1100 block of Route Boulevard reported that thieves had broken into her maroon '80 Volvo and stole items from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ On Nov. 17 a resident on the 1000 block of Kaine Avenue reported that thieves had broken into his car and stole items. His roommate had seen someone enter into bushes near their home. Officers searched the area and contacted a 23-year-old Hercules man and a 21-year-old Albany woman and found stolen items in their possession. The Hercules man was arrested for theft. The Albany woman was found to have an outstanding warrant for possession of a controlled substance.

See ALBANY, Page A3

Stolen Saturn lands three men in jail

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Police stopped three men traveling south in a 1993 Saturn on San Pablo Avenue near Carlos Avenue at 1:40 a.m. on Nov. 17 police stopped. The car had been reported to Novato as stolen the day before. The three occupants, all in their 20s and residents of Richmond, were arrested for motor vehicle theft and possession of stolen property and taken to County Jail in Martinez.

■ At 4:40 p.m. on Nov. 17 police received a report an employee was being detained for allegedly removing property from an elderly resident at a retirement home in the 6500 block of Gladys Avenue. The suspect, a 24-year-old El Cerrito man, was subsequently arrested for burglary and an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

■ At 4 a.m. on Nov. 12 police stopped a vehicle after noticing it had failed to stop earlier on Central Avenue near San Joaquin Street. A passenger in the vehicle,

a 40-year-old El Cerrito man, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and a parole-at-large warrant issued by the state Department of Corrections.

■ At 7:45 a.m. on Nov. 12 police received a report of domestic disturbance in a home in the 1400 block of Liberty Street. Police discovered that an argument had become physical and the suspect had apparently hit the victim's face several times causing swelling and bruising. The suspect, a 29-year-old El Cerrito man, was arrested for corporal injury to a co-habitant and possession of a controlled substance.

■ At 2:35 p.m. on Nov. 12 a husband and wife got into a fight in their Sonoma Street home. The police report states the altercation resulted in a "visible injury" to the 35-year-old husband. The wife was arrested for corporal injury to a co-habitant and taken to county jail. The husband was arrested for spousal battery.

■ At 2:50 a.m. on Nov. 11 police were requested to do a welfare check on a resident in the 11700 block of San Pablo Avenue. Upon arrival they discovered a person with several minor visible

injuries, a victim of suspected domestic violence. The person suspected of causing the injuries, a 27-year-old El Cerrito man, was arrested and taken to jail.

■ At 7:57 p.m. on Nov. 12 police arrested a 20-year-old Berkeley woman at the intersection of San Pablo and Fairmount avenues. The woman was in possession of syringes, some used and others contained a liquid that tested positive for methamphetamine.

■ On Nov. 9 two men were arrested for being drunk in public on the sidewalk in front of a liquor store in the 11300 block of San Pablo Avenue. One man was a 49-year-old Richmond resident, the other was a 40-year-old Kensington resident.

■ At 4 p.m. on Nov. 8 two 17-year-old boys, one from Richmond and one from El Cerrito, got into a fight at the Community Center on Moser Lane.

■ At 11:55 p.m. on Nov. 12 police stopped a man riding a bicycle erratically and without lights in the west parking lot of the El Cerrito Plaza. The bicyclist, a 45-year-old man, was found to be under the influence of alcohol and arrested.

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Hot cars, cart capers, and stufflespeak

Have you ever returned to where you thought you parked your car and found another it its place? Most of us have only to discover we actually parked somewhere nearby. What a relief!

But a friend of mine — let's call her Marie — recently found another car in the spot where her really had parked. Her silver BMW was just plain gone. I tell this story as warning to those who may have grown careless about leaving their keys in the ignition.

Marie had parked her car on Shattuck Avenue near Vine Street in Berkeley while she was at a coffee shop. Her caffeine requirement met, she got into her car and put the key into the ignition. Then she made the fateful decision to cross the street to buy a New York Times from a vending machine.

And she left the key in the ignition. In the time it took her to put her quarters in the machine and turn around not only was her car stolen but another was parked in its place. They move fast in Berkeley.

Marie called the police and an officer drove her home. Her house keys were on the same ring as the car keys, so the officer had to crawl in a window, (she now keeps them locked.) Marie called her insurance company, and they provided her with a loaner, a Chevy that she didn't like much.

Nine days later the police called to say that the California Highway Patrol had retrieved her car. A CHP officer had spotted it being driven on the street in West Oakland.

The driver was a parolee — a surprise — who had just gotten out of jail. The police told the car, "looked as though someone had been living in it." It was littered with old beer cans, partially eaten hot dogs, a sack of potatoes, and dog food.

But there didn't appear to be any serious damage to the well-maintained 1990 vehicle. It only had about 32,000 miles on it, and Marie figures it was driven approximately 400 miles.

To get her car back, she needed a vehicle release from the Berkeley police. Then she found the CHP had locked her keys in their property room and replaced the key to it. Marie said they not only failed to see the irony of this, but were none too pleasant about it.

Fortunately, she had another set of keys and was able to retrieve Old Faithful from the Jenkins Brothers towing service in downtown Oakland. A CHP officer later returned her keys.

Marie is having the car checked out mechanically as well as cleaned up and detailed by a BMW dealer. Considering that many stolen cars are never found and that some that are have been totally trashed, she



DAVE GREER
Man About Town

got off pretty easily. Having her house keys changed cost 100 bucks, and she paid \$500 deductible on her insurance while the company picked up most of the tab. But nobody pays you for emotional shock, pain and suffering.

The moral of the story is never leave your keys in your car for "just a minute." And lock it up, too. Professional thieves — who often target luxury cars — can hot-wire them amazingly fast once inside. At least make them work for your vehicle.

CART CAPERS: Supermarkets spend huge sums advertising but pay no attention to the first thing most shoppers want when they draw them to the store: a shopping cart.

These handy devices are frequently littered with the store's advertising pages and other paper trash. Sometimes empty bottles, food wrappers, and partially eaten snacks and vegetables are added to the mix. I have seen some carts that looked like mini-dumpsters on wheels.

Which brings us to the wheels, which are supposed to be round. But if I had a quarter for every cart I've gotten over the years with a square wheel or squeaking wheel, I'd be sending somebody else to push them around the store for me.

It is hard to understand why management does not instruct the cart wranglers, who round up these little dogs, to clean them up and set the lame ones aside to be repaired.

And then there is the cart jam in which a cart jockey has rammed a bunch of them together so hard that anybody who doesn't pump iron regularly or have a pry bar handy can't break one loose. Older folks often struggle with them until some young muscle man separates one for them.

I thought I had experienced every inconvenience involving carts a store could inflict until I found a whole herd of them lashed together with the straps they have to restrain children. These straps have connector fittings on the ends which make them very hard to undo when knotted.

On top of that, the ignoramus who tied them together used grannies that jam instead of legitimate knots that don't. And he put one granny on top of another. These Gordian grannies defied the best efforts of this old sailor to untie them.

Help came in the form of James Austin, who was posted

nearby collecting for the Veterans of Foreign Wars and distributing their familiar red "Buddy Poppies." Austin is a 20-year Army man who served in both Korea and Vietnam. He took over my battle with the grannies while I hunted up a stray cart.

When I returned, Austin had the whole mess untangled. And he told me this was not the work of a vandal, as I presumed, but of a cart wrangler who lashed them together to make his job easier. No, you say it.

I found this discouraging, but was pleased to learn that this year a heightened sense of patriotism was leading people to contribute folding money instead of the usual coins for the poppies. This money benefits the disabled veterans who assemble them as well as needy families of veterans.

I have never had any reason to doubt that this money actually goes to the people for whom it is intended, which is not true of all charities. The VFW dispenses the red poppies three days prior to both Veterans Day and Memorial Day. Dig deep when you see them again: We owe these veterans more than we can ever repay them.

STUFFLEBEEM UPDATE: In my last column I discussed some techniques employed by spokesfolks to avoid answering questions while appearing to do so. This is an art born of politics which the military also finds useful, particularly in time of war.

I also noted that Rear Admiral John Stufflebeem let something slip during an interview and that I had not spotted him since. I surmised he had been reassigned to sea duty, but he is once again appearing on TV and being quoted in the press.

However, Stufflebeem's stumbling efforts to avoid answering questions also caught the attention of the ordinarily staid New York Times. With tongue in cheek, it quoted the rear admiral verbatim as follows: "There are individuals who would try to put together what we, at least, I have heard on one occasion, called a Southern Alliance."

As a reporter, I know we sometimes clean up the more convoluted utterances of public figures. We usually do so to make them more comprehensible, sometimes to spare the speaker embarrassment. That's if we like him or the position he is taking; otherwise, he may get the verbatim treatment.

In this case I suspect that Stufflebeem's muddled attempt to pass off recent history as news struck the reporter as humorous. It did me, but I was already a Stufflebeem buff.

IN BRIEF

Harding Goes Hollywood auction

The third annual Harding Goes Hollywood auction silent and live auction of memorabilia, merchandise and other unique items is 6:30-9 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, in the auditorium at Harding Elementary School, 7230 Fairmount Ave. El Cerrito.

Proceeds go to support the school's music, computer and science programs.

Many Hollywood celebrities have donated autographed items for the live auction.

Other items include a private birthday party given by our firefighters at Station 72, a video of "To Kill a Mocking Bird" autographed and donated by Gregory Peck and a hand-crafted wooden dollhouse donated by Marvin Gardens Realty. The tables also include live tickets from Sugar Bowl, Northstar and Donner. Performances from Berkely Rep., Cal Performances, ACT and the S.F. Symphony.

Gray Panthers hold general meeting

BERKELEY — The Berkeley Gray Panthers will hold a general meeting Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St.

The topic of discussion is "What Really Happened at the UN Conference on Racism, or: What the Press Left Out." Call 510-548-9696 for information.

The senior center is located on the corner of Hearst and MLK, on block north of University Ave, near the Berkeley BART Station.

Workshop offers help for school

ALBANY — The community is invited to attend the educational workshop, "Helping Our Children Succeed in School: Building Better Study and Organizational Skills," at the Albany Middle School library on Tuesday, Nov. 27 from 7:15 - 8:45 p.m.

The workshop, sponsored by the middle school Parent Teacher Association, is the second in a series of parent education programs at the middle school aimed at empowering students in the classroom.

Some items of discussion will be, helping children develop better study habits, strategies to help students cope with testing more effectively, necessary and helpful parental interaction and adapting to different learning styles.

Facilitating the workshop is David Berg, a private practice educational therapist with 20 years of classroom experience who is

currently consulting with the Marin School staff in his developmental approach to teaching math.

St. Alban's holds workshop on grief

ALBANY — In response to the war on terrorism, St. Alban's Episcopal Church will hold a forum, "Putting Grief in Perspective: Seizing Opportunities for Control over Fear and Confusion since 9/11" at the church, 1501 Washington Ave. from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The church is located on the corner of Curtis and Washington Avenue, parking is available on surrounding streets.

Since Sept. 11, therapists and grief counselors have been seeing more and more people affected by the tragedy and the resulting anxiety as well as over loss of jobs, money, health, stock-market decline, divorce, loved ones' deaths, anthrax threat, and more.

The holidays typically exacerbate feelings of depression,

helplessness, and despair.

Moderator Patricia Burkett, a life-planning counselor and writer, will share some of her coping methods. Burkett authored "Relief Grief: Swimming Upstream with a Societal Paradox."

St. Alban's Pastor Jim Stickney will lend his crisis comprehension and intervention expertise. The Rev. Stickney's book, "The History of Galilee" was recently published.

Other participants will share their views for handling and surviving painful situations.

This forum is free but it would be helpful to know the number of interested attendees.

Call parish secretaries 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday at 510-525-1716 (or leave a recorded message any time).

Deciphering your teen's moods

"Understanding Your Teen's Moods" is the topic of an up-

See BRIEFS, Page A7

Turnabout Shop annual holiday sale starts this weekend

JOURNAL STAFF

EL CERRITO — Christmas shoppers and bargain hunters, the Berkeley Clinic Auxiliary announces its annual Christmas shopping spree at the Turnabout Thrift Shop in El Cerrito.

For holiday gifts and clothing and home decorations, you are invited to come to the Turnabout Shop at 10052 San Pablo Ave. in El Cerrito (between Fairmount and Central avenues) for a shopping spree from Saturday, Nov. 24 through Saturday, Dec. 14.

The shop is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., except Wednesdays and Sundays.

The Christmas shopping spree is a special selection of items in the sale, including jewelry, linens, china, antiques, glassware and clothing that has been collected throughout the year from the

regular merchandise, all of which is donated.

The Turnabout Shop is staffed by volunteers and although it has been located in El Cerrito for 15 years, the non-profit Berkeley Clinic Auxiliary staffed a shop in Berkeley for the previous 42 years.

From 1954, orthodontia for needy, school-age children has been the main charity from the sales of the donated items. Gifts of money have also been made to Telecare (a group of volunteers who telephone shut-ins daily) and to other charities which vary from hearing dogs to camperships for children, needy or with health problems and from East Bay Alzheimer's Center to Richmond Souper Center of the Greater Richmond Interfaith Project.

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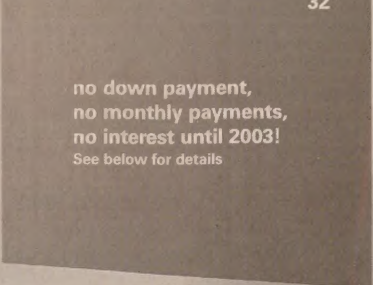

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10

Opinion

EDITORIAL

Endless thanksgiving

The day after Thanksgiving is unique among post-holidays. Unlike other observances, the day after provides a lift instead of a letdown. The reason: It's the busiest shopping day of the year.

And that signifies more than a lift of the spirit for millions of Americans who have raised shopping to the level of a national pastime. This year especially, the start of the pre-Christmas shopping season is being counted on to lift the national economy.

If that sounds crass, let's look at it from another perspective.

The actual origin of a day set aside for giving thanks is probably the harvest festivals that are traditional in many parts of the world. America's observance goes back to 1621. The first harvest was in at the Plymouth colony. Gov. William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving and prayer to be shared by the colonists and neighboring Indians.

Today's harvest is different. Thanksgiving still pays homage to a gathering-in. But instead of nature's bounty, we are offered a harvest of goods and services.

It is entirely proper, and not at all crass, that we give thanks for living in a free society where this is possible.

We owe thanks to an economic opportunity system that provides men and women, workers and entrepreneurs, the freedoms to create, design, build, and sell a veritable cornucopia of products to satisfy our needs and our comforts.

Thanksgiving didn't end last night. We have reasons to give thanks year round.

Making a wrong right

NOT MANY ORGANIZATIONS stand up to the tomatoes of criticism flung at them and say the tomato-flingers are right. And when they do, it is often after years of study and commissions and committees. It is after the mistakes can no longer be corrected. The Red Cross has done the right thing in swiftly reversing course when justified criticism came flying its way.

The Red Cross had planned to use only \$300 million of the more than \$540 million collected for 9-1-1 relief for that purpose. The rest was to go for projects such as a frozen blood inventory, communications improvements to aid processing of donations and preparation for additional attacks.

Donors were shocked when they found out; that is not the cause to which they donated. They thought that had not been made clear when donations were sought. It hadn't. But Red Cross officials must have felt they'd hit the motherlode and all the projects that they never have enough money for were suddenly doable.

It wasn't the only wrongheaded decision made during this tragedy; reports of donated blood having to be destroyed because workers were told to keep taking donations although they knew they didn't have the facilities for long-term storage. It's appalling considering how low the blood supply has been for the past several years.

Perhaps with its change in leadership, the Red Cross can make better decisions. This new plan for the Liberty Fund is a good start. Although the leadership is sure that it did not mislead people, it recognized how damaging all this could be to an organization that depends on donations.

When congressional leaders took them to task as well they swiftly moved to make things right. Now all the money collected through the Liberty Fund, minus a less-than-standard 9 percent overhead, will go to victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist acts and families who lost someone to anthrax.

It is that swift reversal that earns our nod. Although it might have been foolhardy to continue on the path they were treading, they could have stubbornly done that and dealt with any consequences later down the road. We are glad they decided to do the right thing.

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LEFTOVERS STILL?

IT'S A TURKEY, MASHED POTATO,
CRANBERRY SAUCE
POWER SHAKE.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Justice, not hate

The Sept. 11 events were unlike any ever encountered worldwide.

A handful of people, indoctrinated with deep hatred and expertly trained to use unsophisticated weapons, accomplished devastating destruction and changed the fabric of our lives. Until then, America seemed invincible.

Those responsible for these horrendous acts must be brought to justice; the World Court can accomplish that.

Killing innocent civilians plays into the hands of our enemies. They would like nothing better than to show that we are no better than they.

The Afghans might assist in finding the guilty parties, if we would help them, not bomb them. Already there are reports of major riots increasing globally.

We are defeating our own purpose by waging a war on those people who are not afraid to die for their "cause," and in the process, we are making new enemies who could become future terrorists.

The effectiveness of weapons of the spirit has been demonstrated by such peacemakers and visionaries as Gandhi, King, Mandela and Rosa Parks.

The United States is a great and powerful country with many capable, compassionate people. We do not need to stoop to the level of the terrorists.

Hate destroys ... understanding and love build bridges!

**Ilse Hadda
Annemarie Roepert
El Cerrito**

Speak out

I am writing this letter in support of the Berkeley City Council resolution opposing the bombing of Afghanistan.

It is critical in these times that voices speak out in opposition to Bush's so-called "unilateral support" for this war. Their actions make me proud to be living in Berkeley.

I understand there has been a threat of boycotts of Berkeley businesses, hotels, and so forth, as a result of their actions. A tentative suggestion to neutralize these boycotts would be to publicize the threats they pose to local businesses, list the national companies and organizations threatening the boycotts and, simultaneously, launching a "Buy Berkeley" campaign encouraging residents to shop locally and support our neighborhood businesses.

Please, Berkeley City Council, do not rescind your resolution opposing the war in Afghanistan.

**Glenn Fuller
Berkeley**

A diminishment

At a recent El Cerrito City Council meeting, a respected community member said she couldn't see that it made any

difference whether someone was employed by a "big box" store or by a local resident owner of a retail store. I see this as the diminishment of our communities.

In his book, "When Corporations Rule the World," David Korten quotes Donella Meadows, a systems analyst and syndicated columnist, who in 1993 described what happens when a Wal-Mart comes to town.

According to Meadows, in Iowa, the average Wal-Mart grosses \$13 million a year and increases total area sales by \$4 million, meaning it takes \$9 million worth of business from existing stores.

Within three or four years of a Wal-Mart's arrival, retail sales within a 20-mile radius go down by 25 percent; 20 to 50 miles, sales go down 10 percent.

A Massachusetts study says a typical Wal-Mart adds 140 jobs and destroys 230 higher-paying jobs. Despite public investments in restoring downtown business districts, vacancies increase. Rents drop, and the remaining enterprises pay lower wages and taxes. Competing chain stores in existing malls leave and are not replaced.

In my ideal world, businesses are owned and operated by community residents.

**Joan Bartulovich
El Cerrito**

Dissatisfied? Leave!

When I saw the poll showing Berkeley compared to other U.S. cities, I was not surprised. In addition, given your need to sell subscriptions to Berkeley residents, I would not be surprised about the large amount of space given this story.

This story was not news, because anyone who pays attention realizes Berkeley is a place where too many residents live in a fool's paradise.

Over the years, the leftists have slowly but surely taken control of the city. It is now to the point that serious consideration must be given to requiring passports for Berkeley residents visiting other parts of the United States.

Unfortunately, leftists such as Rep. Barbara Lee have the impression serving these leftists is doing the right thing. It is my hope that those who truly believe in our constitutional republic will realize just how dangerous the Berkeley mentality is to our liberty.

There are too many citizens practicing hate America and too few with a sense of history that understand the value of being an American citizen. There is a simple solution to those who are so dissatisfied: If you don't like America, leave. Don't try to turn this great country into a self-hating, morally corrupt, dumbed-down entity without a culture, borders, and English as our common language.

These leftists don't realize they are practicing the art of looking for trouble, finding it, misdiagnosing and then misapplying the wrong remedies.

Irrational thoughts

The other day, as I was watching Span on TV, a white van stopped in front of my house. Two guys hopped out and rang my doorbell. They said I was being put under observation and would I please come with them.

I was shocked, but managed to show defiantly that I was a registered Republican. This seemed to give them pause for thought.

After some arguing, they went back to their van to check their computer. They returned shortly, saying that records showed that, indeed, I was a registered Republican and had been for 30 years.

They said someone from El Sobrante or Lafayette had reported my area as emanating suspicious vibrations and, as my civil servants, they were obligated to respond. There must have been a mistake.

They said they were now going to investigate El Sobrante and Lafayette for irrational thoughts.

Which all goes to show that there is not only a clash of civilizations going on somewhere out there, but there is a clash of ideas regarding what democracy is all about in our very own backyard.

**Charles T. Walker
Berkeley**

Oppose 'retribution'

We oppose the bombing of Afghanistan as justifiable "retribution."

Sept. 11 represents a crime against humanity. We do not oppose the capture of Osama bin Laden and his supporters; we must assemble and present to the world evidence of guilt and seek justice through international law, using the highest possible amount of force to bring those who collaborated with the perpetrators to justice. We believe killing innocent people is the problem, not the solution.

As a distinguished Buddhist peace leader, Daisaku Ikeda, recently stated, "Peace that is based on the forceful suppression of other nations' voices and concerns is a dead peace, the peace of the grave. Surely that is not the peace that humanity is seeking."

We concur with the National Lawyers Guild that "The universal desire is to live safe and secure."

The only path to safety and security is through international law, not vengeance and retaliation."

**Betty Brown
Kensington**

Brown is board chairwoman for the bany-based East Bay Peace Action.

Now you, too, can have a bin Laden trading card

When you had a better Big Game weekend than I did. Most of my favorite teams lost. UCLA — lost. USC — lost. The USA — won. The USA beat the Al-Qaeda terrorists, using the ol' Statue of Liberty play.

Trading of sports: Move Barry Bonds. Make way for Osama bin Laden? The Topps, the company that makes baseball, football and basketball cards, has given out one card of his own. I read it in Sports Illustrated, and quotes Topps CEO John Shorin as saying he expects children to "act out their anger by burning, tearing up or trampling on the card."

Maybe. But my advice to collectors is to buy the Osama now, while it's still cheap. You won't get a card's price goes up as soon as the guy dies.



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

should mention that Ms. Romilly was really nice about it. She sent me a very sweet e-mail gently calling the error to my attention.

But I can't stop kicking myself. It was not only the wrong nickname, it was an insulting one. She'll probably never be able to read it without wincing. And frankly, neither will I.

So for the record, Dinky is not, repeat not, ditsy. I, on the other hand, obviously am.

Finally, I was saddened to hear of the passing of pioneer investigative reporter Marilyn Baker, who died last week at age 76.

She was one of my heroes, and I wasn't the only reporter who felt that way. She was a tough, resourceful, take-no-prisoners investigative reporter in an era when women were usually limited to doing feature stories. Old-timers remember fondly her days on Channel 9's legendary and much-lamented "Newsroom," the golden age of local news in San Francisco.

After "Newsroom" was canceled, she moved to Channel 5, which lured her with the promise of her own investigative team. During the Patty Hearst kidnapping, she was the reporter who uncovered most of the information about the Symbionese Liberation Army.

But what I'll remember most fondly is what she did after her retirement, when she moved to Palm Springs and started volunteering for the local humane society.

If you'll recall, my brother Steve — the one who died last spring — also lived in Palm Springs. He was a big dog lover who owned two very sweet German shepherds, a mother and son named Sheela and Pumpkin.

One day, while Steve and his wife, Barbara, were out of town, their house sitter accidentally tripped the burglar alarm, summoning the police. In the confusion, Sheela accidentally got out. She wasn't acting in a threatening way, but the cops panicked and shot her. If it had been my dog, I would have sued. But my brother was a nice guy, and all he really wanted was to make sure this kind of thing never happened again.

So instead of suing, he went to the police department and made them this offer: He'd pay for training sessions with an animal behaviorist if they would promise to attend them. Which they did. A few weeks later, I called Steve and asked how the training sessions were going.

"The first few weeks, not a single cop showed up," he said. "I kept calling and reminding them of our agreement, but

nothing happened. I was getting really frustrated. Then a woman from the Humane Society named Marilyn Baker got involved, and everything turned around overnight."

"Gee," I said. "I used to know a Marilyn Baker in San Francisco who moved to Palm Springs a few years ago. I wonder if it's the same woman."

"Well, let me tell you the story," he said. "She called the chief of police and said, 'Listen, I'm going to be at the next training session tomorrow morning with a camera crew,

and we're going to film all the empty seats.' The next morning, the chief and all his top brass were sitting in the front rows. And because they had to be there, all the other cops had to show up, too. End of problem."

"That's the same woman, all right!" I said.

It could hardly have been anyone else. Marilyn Baker was one of a kind.

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-273-9039 or e-mail him at catman@california.com.

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Briefs

FROM PAGE 1

coming workshop for parents of teenagers from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, December 6 at El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito, in room 812.

Speaker Richard Rodriguez has had 30 years working with teens. He holds an M.A. in Clinical Psychology, and is a Ph.D. candidate at JFK University.

This free workshop, the third in a year-long series to assist parents of today's teenagers, open to everyone. The workshops are held the first Thursday of every month. They are co-sponsored by the El Cerrito High PTSA and West Contra Costa Adult Education. No babysitting is provided. Details: 559-2660, ext. 205.

Agency: fireplace bad for heating, health

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is encouraging people to help keep the air clean this Thanksgiving by not using their fireplaces.

The district said wood burning, the number one source of air pollution, is an especially popular pastime and method people use to use for generating heat during the holidays. With Thanksgiving approaching, the district is asking people to use their heads, though, and not their fireplaces.

District spokesman Peter Hess said, "Wood smoke pollution can have serious health consequences. The very smallest par-

ticles from wood smoke can penetrate deep in the lungs and become trapped for years, contributing to lung disease."



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A Middle East school dedicated to peace and coexistence

Arlene and Wolfgang (Wolf) Homberger are eager to talk about a program dear to their hearts: the Neve Shalom-Wahat Al-Salam village and school in Israel. NeveShalom and Wahat Al-Salam both mean "Oasis of Peace" — one in Hebrew and one in Arabic.

The people who live in the village and the children in the school are a mix of Israeli and Arabs, and the mix is carefully kept equal. The teachers, too, are from both cultures. Most of the children in the primary school are from outside of the village, but the Israeli/Arab mix is still equal.

The other program in the village is the School for Peace, which teaches the dynamics of peace to Jewish and Arab adults and youngsters from all over the country.

The Hombergers note, sadly, that since the beginning of the Al Aqsa Intifada, funds have been harder to come by for the school, particularly that part of the funding that comes from the state. But in keeping with the principles of the village and the schools, the bicultural, bilingual life and teaching continue, and more people apply to the primary school than the school can handle.

And in the village itself, there is a waiting list for families who would like to settle there. It isn't easy. Each family must build its own home.

The worldwide Friends of NS-WAS have had and continue to have a strong relation-



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

ship with the village. They are primarily involved with the finances, raising funds for the schools from all over the world.

The Hombergers mention Barbara Muslim, of Tiburon, who, herself, donated all the playground landscaping for the school. "A wonderful woman," they tell me, and "an example of the many major donors to the village and the school."

The hope is, of course, that people living together in peace can show the world that this can be done elsewhere, as well. And the children going to school and learning together will some day become that "critical mass" that will prove the demographic truism that 10 percent of a population is enough to influence the life and direction of a democracy.

To date the Jewish and Arab children who receive their basic education in the NS-WAS primary school (there are 311 in the school this year) and the many more than 20,000 young people and adults who have truly met each other in the School for Peace have committed themselves to peaceful negotiation as the way forward. How soon they will reach the "critical mass" no one knows.

One can only hope.

The latest newsletter of the American Friends of NS-WAS talks of the problems in maintaining a language balance, and the ways in which the teachers, staff and parents of the school are working on it.

This most unique and promising program has the Hombergers "hooked." Says Wolf, "This is something we can do that makes a positive difference." And, he adds, "We are learning a lot."

The Hombergers are a most interesting couple. Wolf was born in Karlsruhe, Germany. When he was 12 he and his brother became part of the Kindertransport that took Jewish children to safety in England.

They were fortunate that they had relatives who lived there, so that they did not have to go to strangers. The relatives sent them to boarding school, where Wolf remained until he was able to join his parents in New York in 1946. They had been sent to the concentration camps, but were able to get visas to go to New York.

Wolf studied at a university called Cooper Union, then got his master's at UC Berkeley. He was offered a two-year job teaching at UC, and 30 years later he retired from that job.

Arlene, born in Seattle, grew up in Los Angeles in a home where the plight of migrant workers, the books of John Steinbeck and the opposition to the incarceration of the Japanese were the topics of conver-

sation and action.

So it was natural that she went to the International House at Cal when she came to school here. And that is where Arlene and Wolf met.

Now, with children grown (son Paul has two boys, and daughter Joanne has three daughters) Arlene and Wolf are giving much of their attention to the small village that can mean so much to the future of the Middle East, if it can be strengthened and helped to grow.

Arlene has been on the board of the American Friends of Neve Shalom-Wahat Al-Salam, and both of them are giving a great deal of time and effort in getting the word out about this wonderful experiment and helping it to grow. They have visited the village, staying in the guest house there (where Hillary Clinton also stayed when she visited) and saw for themselves how beautifully the people lived together, worked together and studied together.

The friends of the school are hoping to raise funds for a junior high school, although conditions in the area make fund raising difficult.

But the village has not given up, and expanding the school to include junior high is something they are struggling to do.

The School of Peace continues with its workshops, and participants report that encounters are a source of growth where they increase their understanding of the conflict that

surrounds them. The American Friends have a new Web site at Oasisofpeace.org.

Interested people can also obtain more information by writing the American Friends of Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam, 121 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 507, New York, NY 10013. Email is afnswas@oasisofpeace.org.

Thank you, Henry Lin... suggesting the Hombergers... I certainly enjoyed... vite all of you to give... input: Please write to... Pierce St., No. 445... 94706, or call 525-408... mail is crgenser@oasisofpeace.org.

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Obstructive Sleep Apnea - Sufferers have trouble breathing freely while sleeping. Because they are struggling for each breath, they don't get enough oxygen or enough deeply restful sleep. Symptoms include:

Loud snoring, snorting or gasping for breath during sleep; dry mouth; nodding off unintentionally during the day; feeling tired and unrested after 7-8 hours of sleep; poor memory and concentration; morning headaches.

Insomnia - The most common sleep complaint in the country is insomnia. It has many causes: shift work, illness, medications, stress. But all sufferers experience daytime sleepiness, fatigue, mood swings, and a reduced ability to do daily tasks.

The Center is currently conducting a clinical research study for people that are 65-85 years old that have difficulty falling asleep or maintaining sleep through the night. If you or someone you know may be interested in learning more about this study, please call 1-877-38-SLEEP.

Other sleep disorders The Center treats include:

- Narcolepsy
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cess.
"Despite the measures that have been passed in recent years, voters in the district continue to perceive a great need for school repairs and improvements," said pollster David Metz, of Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates. "It's that underlying sense of need that's driving voter support."
School board members, beaming after hearing the poll results, said March would be the most opportune time to ask voters for money because March ballots tend to be less crowded than those in November.

been stolen while parked at a business on the 600 block of San Pablo Avenue.
■ Just before midnight on Nov. 17 officers stopped a blue '88 Chevrolet near Solano and Masonic Avenues for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 20-year-old Berkeley man, gave officers a false name and said he didn't have a driver's license. He was also found to have a No Bail warrant from Alameda County Juvenile Probation office. He was arrested for giving a false name and transported to Juvenile Hall.
■ On the evening of Nov. 18 officers located a gray '85 Toyota Camry reported as stolen from Richmond. The car was towed and the owner notified.
■ At about 1:30 a.m. on Nov. 19 a resident on the 1000 block of Talbot Avenue reported that she had observed a man acting suspiciously around the vehicles in the area. Officers contacted the 41-year-old Berkeley man and arrested him for vehicle tam-


Tennis
FROM PAGE 1
Services manager Melinda Chinn said the department is applying for a series of grants, including one from the United States Tennis Association, that could net up to \$10,000. The remaining \$15,000 will be covered by putting off installing new netting in the perimeter fencing. If a grant isn't secured, she proposed fixing the lighting (a \$28,000 cost) in next year's fiscal budget cycle.
Meanwhile, the city will wait

per. He was transported to the Berkeley jail.
■ On Nov. 19 an employee at a business on the 600 block of Cleveland Avenue reported that thieves broke into his light blue '86 Mazda and stole items.
■ On Nov. 19 a resident on the 1000 block of Talbot Avenue reported that during the night thieves broke into his green Toyota pickup and stole items.
During the week of Nov. 12 officers towed eight vehicles, re-

to approve plans for the new tot lot at Memorial until a study on impact to tree roots is completed early next month. If the study shows there will not be any consequences to the roots of the five trees in the area, expect the city to approve the \$800,000-plus project at the Dec. 10 council meeting with construction beginning in the summer of 2002.
The council also conducted its yearly mayor/vice mayor reshuffling by naming Peggy Thomsen as mayor, and Jewel Okawachi as vice mayor. They will assume their new posts the first week of December.

Groups
FROM PAGE 1
"modest sum."
In other matters the council authorized a \$42,889 contract with Diamond Painting Co. of Suisun to paint 13 city-owned buildings, mostly located in parks. The painting is part of the fall clean-up and is scheduled to begin in December and be completed in February.


The council also had a public hearing on the cost, \$5,017, to rid two private properties of fire hazards. According to Fire Prevention Officer Bill Capps, the owners of the properties were the only two in the city this year who failed to clear fire hazards on their properties after notifications by the Fire Department. The abatement work was done by contract labor and the cost will be recovered by a county lien on the property.



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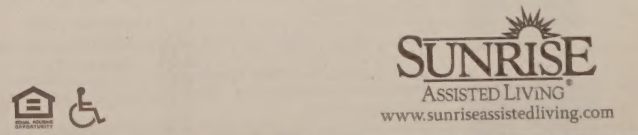
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HOLIDAY 2001 VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Volunteer Center of Alameda County (419-3970 or www.volunteeronline.org) asks interested residents to share their time and other resources with the following groups:

■ **AASK**, or Adopt a Special Kid, brings children from the welfare system into loving homes and reuniting families. All services are free. Contact Andrea Schneider at 553-1748 ext. 12. AASK needs gifts and new toys, art supplies, games and outdoor toys.

■ **Alameda County Community Food Bank** distributes 12 million pounds of food per year to a network of 300 soup kitchens, shelters and food pantries in Alameda County through the West Oakland Army Base. Contact Mary Schoen at 834-3663. The food bank needs non-perishable items (canned and prepared foods), as well as gifts for toys for children.

■ **BACS Adult Day Care Services** provides services for older adults with chronic health problems including Alzheimer's and provides support for their families (5714 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland). Contact Helen Wachs at 801-1074. Toiletries for men and women, including hand cream and lotion, are needed.

■ **Berkeley Youth Alternatives** provides services for at-risk children and focuses on channeling them into positive directions through pre-K and after-school programs, counseling, youth employment and mentoring (1255 Allston Way in Berkeley). Contact Deborah Espinoza at 847-0712. Toys for children, ages 6-14, are needed.

■ **Better Way Inc.** offers adoption services, foster care and therapy services for children (3200 Adeline St., Berkeley). Contact Kathy Sanonetti at 601-0203, ext. 116. Chocolate gold coins in small bags, gifts, toys and books for children ages 4-12, CDs and players, T-shirts, bath products, make up and holiday wrapping paper are needed.

■ **Center for AIDS Services** for persons with HIV/AIDS, provides hot meals, transportation to and from medical-service appointments, case management and related assistance (6720 Shattuck Ave., Oakland). Contact Sarah Hammer at 655-3435. Hams, sweet potatoes, vegetables, frozen, pumpkin pies, boxed stuffing, cans of broth, cranberry sauce, bake-and-serve rolls, gifts and toys, towels, shaving cream, razors, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, scarves, gloves and socks are needed.

■ **Center for Education of Infant Deaf** provides early intervention and parent education for babies and preschool deaf children and their families (1810 Hopkins St., Berkeley). Contact Jill Ellis at 527-5544. Non-perishable food, gifts and toys for infants and young children are needed.

■ **Child Unique Montessori School** serves children from 24 months of age through 1st grade (2220 Encinal Ave., Alameda). Contact the school director at 521-9227. Canned food, turkey coupons, canned or boxed drinks, safe toys for infants and young children, gift certificates, money orders and other holiday gifts for low-income families are needed.

■ **Destiny Arts Center** is an arts-education and violence-prevention community center serving youth ages 3-20 (5688 San Pablo Ave., Oakland). Contact Jovida Ross at 597-1619. Baked goods for winter celebrations, gifts and toys are needed.

■ **East Bay Center for the Blind**, a self-run social and recreational agency for the blind and visually impaired (2928 Adeline St., Berkeley). Contact Elizabeth Deef at 843-6935. Candy and small gifts for holiday events are needed.

■ **East Bay Community Law Center** provides free legal services for low-income residents related to eviction prevention and HIV/AIDS (3130 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley). Contact Brad Yatabe at 548-4040. Packaged, canned, non-perishable foods and beverages, gifts and toys for children, gift certificates for stores or restaurants are needed.

■ **Leaders in Future Environments** mentors teens who have been impacted by the incarceration of a family member (300 4th St., Oakland). Food for a holiday meal to be shared on Saturday, Dec. 8, as well as gifts and toys for teens are needed.

■ **Lifelong Medical Care**, community medical clinic serving the needs of the uninsured and seniors (2031 6th St., Berkeley). Contact Danine Bothe at 704-6010 ext. 258. Turkeys, potatoes, stuffing, bread, drinks, desserts, toiletries for adults, new unwrapped toys, gift wrap, holiday decorations and Christmas trees are needed.

■ **Lincoln Child Center** provides services for emotionally troubled children and their families (4368 Lincoln Ave., Oakland). Contact Michele Fleischer at 531-3111 ext. 326. Gift certificates for Albertson's and Safeway, food baskets, recreational equipment, books, board games, movies (G and PG) and tickets to recreational events are needed.

■ **Pediatric Care**, support groups, individual counseling and companion services for children and families living with loss and grief (2540 Charleston St., Oakland). Contact Jacqueline Bruhn at 531-7551 ext. 173. Gift certificates for Safeway and Albertson's, new toys and books for children, and floor pillows are needed.

■ **Project Open Hand**, provides groceries, hot meals and nutritional counseling for home-bound and critically ill persons (4700 Telegraph Ave., Oakland). Contact Noreen S. Reed at 596-8297. Nonperishable foods, drinks and canned goods are needed.

■ **Seva Foundation**, a health and development agency, works with local communities on wide range of sustainability issues (1786 5th St., Berkeley). Contact Ray Santiago 845-7382 ext. 301 or 306. Snacks and beverages for volunteers are needed.

■ **Solid Foundation** provides services for pregnant and parenting women and their children (2577 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland). Contact Minnie or Brenda at 482-6490. Turkeys, grocery certificates, canned goods, other non-perishables, games, toys, clothing and books for toddlers, diapers, pens, car seats and baby walkers are needed.

■ **Women's Daytime Drop-In Center** provides hospitality, support and referral for homeless women and children (2218 Acton St., Berkeley). Contact DeeJ or Claudia at 549-4390.



THE CLOCK TOWER seen is one of the new features at the remodeled El Cerrito Plaza.

Changes

FROM PAGE 1

Little remains from those early days. Today's mom-and-pop shops occupy '70s-era strip malls and cinderblock buildings. As redevelopment creeps in, the fight over El Cerrito character isn't about architecture. It's about small-town business losing out to national chains.

Ann V. Torres, 71, co-owner of El Cerrito Florist, has witnessed tremendous changes in the 35 years she has operated her business. The recent trend, she says, is a new fast-food franchise every few months.

"How many can one city support?" she asked. Torres feels that these eateries don't appeal much to the city's large senior population, nor do the big-box retailers.

Torres has stayed in business because she keeps her prices below what larger retailers charge. This may point out why the city's Redevelopment Agency courted retail giants like Target. Big retailers bring in more sales tax revenue, a lifeline for starved city governments.

"The leakage of business in this city is fantastic," said Sewall Ginternick, manager of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce.

Ginternick says that big-box stores do the majority of retail business in this country. He doesn't believe big retailers have an inherently negative impact on in-

dependent businesses. They fail to do so because they are inefficient.

Not all San Pablo business owners are against redevelopment in El Cerrito.

"Sometimes the best thing that can happen to a business is a competitor opening nearby," said Victor G. Canepa, owner of El Cerrito Florist.

A family business that has been in business since 1945, he doesn't feel threatened by new businesses opening in El Cerrito Plaza or by the city's Redevelopment Agency.

Canepa's family has been in business since 1945. He doesn't feel threatened by new businesses opening in El Cerrito Plaza or by the city's Redevelopment Agency.

City Councilman Brian Berman, chair of the Redevelopment Agency, says El Cerrito is a commercial center. "It's a fortunate. It's the heart of the city," he said.

He hopes the Redevelopment Agency can help small businesses through grants and expanding the city's commercial center. "It's a small city that can't easily buck the trend. But it's a trend that needs to be bucked."

Pastime

FROM PAGE 1

Pastime Hardware has since the 1960s been affiliated with ACE Hardware, an organization of more than 5,000 independently owned hardware stores that collaborate to buy hardware goods at lower prices.

And as soon as The Home Depot opened its doors in 1993, the Pryde family began trying new tactics based on ideas spawned from the seminars.

It began advertising in newspapers, matching the bigger store's prices on 500 basic products, stocking new merchandise such as aluminum foil, cookware and plastic storage containers, expanding by buying the former furniture store next door and beginning a "take-a-number" system to help customers who want personal attention without bothering those who don't.

Sales began to drop, falling between 10 and 15 percent in the next two years, Pryde said.

But the owners didn't panic. They continued to believe that the new tactics would work, so "we just kept doing what we thought we had to do," Pryde said.

Then, starting in 1995, the store's sales began to turn around.

"People tried Home Depot and then they came back," Pryde said.

Sales have grown 25 to 30 percent since 1992, he said. And while he would not disclose the private store's profits, Pryde said they have also risen steadily since 1995.

Pryde said he finally feels secure in his faith that the store will

continue to grow.

"We're comfortable with where we are now, with our growth," he said. "We're thriving."

Chuck Sifuentes, spokesman for The Home Depot, said he isn't surprised that Pastime Hardware has done well.

"The Home Depot certainly believes competition is a good thing," Sifuentes said. "But our intention in entering a new market is not to put people out of business. We're trying to get a piece of the home-improvement pie, but we believe the pie is big enough for everyone in home improvement to share."

The Home Depot has how-to workshops that encourage people to tackle more home-improvement projects, Sifuentes said, adding that independent businesses often benefit from many area residents becoming interested in home improvement.

And older businesses have the advantage of a head start, he said.

But Pryde attributes Pastime Hardware's success mostly to customer service, not to The Home Depot overlord.

"Customers want someone to look them in the eye and tell them what to do instead of just kissing you off and pointing at the aisle," he said. "There's none of that pointing stuff here."

Last month, Tom Bouye of Berkeley came to Pastime Hardware to buy wheels for a bed.

"He took a number and waited 'only like three minutes' before Pryde called it."

"I'm looking for something to go on the end of a 2-by-4," Bouye said, gesturing vaguely at the wheels section.

"You're better off getting something like this," Pryde said, pulling one off of the upper-right part of the aisle divider. "You get the ball, and — you know how this works? — you drill here and this just pops up."

"How about this one?" Bouye said, pointing at identical-looking wheels.

Pryde asked more questions. What were the wheels for? How many did he need? What type of floor was the bed on?

His hand passed over several other wheels, as he listened to the answers, and then settled back on to the wheels he had originally suggested.

"That's more for carpet and these are more for wood floors?" Bouye asked. "Yes, that's right," Pryde said, nodding.

"So let's go with these," Bouye said, grabbing a pack of wheels and walking to the cashier.

Bouye said he shops at Pastime Hardware instead of The Home Depot because "it's really got a great selection and you can get better help here, too."

But Gabriel Torres, a contractor who bought wood siding at The

Home Depot, said he shops there because of its lower lumber prices.

"You have to wait for a long time in the lines, and it's a problem, but at other stores the prices are more and my customers won't pay for it," he said.

Sifuentes said the two stores are filling different niches in the home-improvement market.

The Home Depot concentrates on attracting contractors and other people working on big jobs, while independent home improvement businesses often attract people working on smaller jobs, Sifuentes said.

"Some people would rather go to a small place to get a screwdriver," he said. "But contractors will come to us to get lumber. We can coexist."

Pryde said that he's resigned himself to the reality of having to compete with The Home Depot. He's also comfortable with the store's position as a model of how to stay alive in the era of the big chains.

"We're not going anywhere, and neither is Home Depot," he said. "I think we're both going to be competitors for a long time."

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NETWORKING

East Bay Women in Business Roundtable Breakfast

In Partnership with Women in Technology International (WITI)

This year's final breakfast of the East Bay Women in Business Roundtable (EBWIBR) is also the Annual Meeting, and part of the morning will be dedicated to election of the new Steering Committee members.

If the December breakfast is at least the third EBWIBR breakfast you have attended in 2001, you will be invited and encouraged to participate in the spirited election.

The remainder of the event will be co-facilitated by Emily Blanck, owner of At Work Communications, and by Christine Bennett, co-founder and principal with Work Vantage, Inc. Both will bring their unique talents and sense of fun to our all-networking extravaganza. Bring your business cards and be prepared to have a good time.

**Friday, December 7, 2001
7:15-7:30 am - Breakfast
7:30-9:00 am - Meeting**

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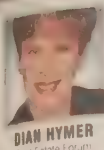
Real Estate & Home

Supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

Friday, November 23, 2001

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B5]
Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B7]



DIAN HYMER
Real Estate Forum

So, are you ready to own a home?

Poor planning can turn the American dream into a nightmare

INMAN NEWS FEATURES

Owning your own home is the American dream. But it can turn into a nightmare. To make sure you don't find yourself in a miserable situation, give careful consideration to the questions listed below before you buy a home.

Do you have job stability? To be more accurate, do you have a steady source of income? Most mortgage lenders will require that you show enough income to support your monthly mortgage payments.

An exception might be made if you make a large enough cash down payment. The more cash down, the easier it is to qualify.

Qualifying for a mortgage is one issue; making the monthly payments is another. If you get behind on your payments, you could lose your home and seriously damage your credit.

See HYMER Page B2

Luxury, style in Oakland's Montclair District

A FEELING OF LUXURY AND STYLE CAN BE YOURS in this comfortable and beautiful home at 34 Villanova Lane in the Oakland hills.

The home features four bedrooms and three and one-half baths and formal living and dining rooms in approximately 5,000 square feet of living space.

To learn more about this home, call Coldwell Banker's Mahnaz Judson at 510-339-4732.



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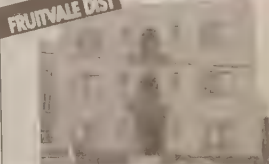
ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS NEW HOME \$1,195,000

...by notable local builders - O'Brien Cheney, Inc. Exquisite styling, state-of-the-art amenities and sweeping views of Mt. Tam, Angel Island, the Golden Gate and S.F. make this home exceptional in every way. Three plus bedrooms plus a main-level suite, a knockout master suite and fabulous wine cellar too!

Mary Neuberger

531-7000x251 or 530-4148

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David Hennigan

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SUPERB CRAFTSMANSHIP \$359,000

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Heidi Tuggle

531-7000x286 or 531-4354

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Kate Phillips

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Buyer shouldn't wait to buy a home Hymer

FROM PAGE B1

Dear Bob: My wife and I have decided to change our lifestyle and buy our first home. The fact she is three months pregnant influenced us greatly.

We've been married three years, living in a 200-unit apartment complex that offers amenities such as pool, gym, tennis courts, and spacious grounds. But we're tired of paying high rent and having nothing to show for our money.

Following your advice, we got preapproved for 90 days with a major bank for a 97 percent home loan. However, friends at work tell me we should wait to buy a home because prices might drop more if the economy falters. What do you suggest we do? — Gregg H.

Dear Gregg: Even in areas hard hit by job layoffs, there has not been any significant drop in home sales prices. However, in many areas homes aren't selling for the inflated asking prices that could have been obtained a year ago.

The inventory of homes for sale in most cities has significantly increased. This is very good for buyers. A year ago, it wasn't unusual for several bids to be placed on a home its first week on the market. Today, sellers and their anxious agents are thrilled to receive any purchase offer within the first month.

You were smart to get preapproved in writing by the actual lender for your home loan. Now you know what price range home you can afford. That 90-day approval period (which can probably be extended) shows how anxious lenders are. In the past, most lenders only preapproved home loans for 30 or 60 days.

No, I don't think you should wait to buy a home, especially with your baby on the way. Home prices are not likely to drop significantly. However, you can now negotiate aggressively with sellers without having to worry about competition from other buyers for the home you want to purchase.

Lease-option is ideal for rental home seller's exchange

Dear Bob: I own two rental houses that are currently each rented under one-year lease-purchase agreements to tenants who say they will want to buy. The sales price is stated in each

agreement.

Every month I credit each tenant with \$200 toward their down payment. After 12 months, each tenant will have \$3,400 toward their down payment. I do not want to extend the term beyond one year. Can I do a tax-deferred exchange on these rental properties? — Beverly P.

Dear Beverly: Yes. With today's easy 97 percent and 100 percent mortgages, your tenants should be able to exercise their purchase options, as long as they have good income and credit. The rent credits can be used to pay their closing costs.

The time to arrange a Starker tax-deferred exchange under Internal Revenue Code 1031(a)(3) is when one or both buyers purchase their homes from you. A local tax attorney or your tax adviser can recommend a third-party intermediary accommodation to hold the sales proceeds beyond your control.

You then have 45 days to designate the qualifying investment or business replacement property to be acquired and 180 days to complete the purchase.

Don't lose \$250,000 home-sale tax exemption by delay

Dear Bob: I own a house that has been a rental for the last year. I have been living in it for seven years. Now I want to sell it to my two sisters and brother. They have about \$50,000 cash. Do we need a real estate agent? How do we transfer title?

I want to use that \$500,000 tax-free home-sale exemption because the house has appreciated about \$220,000 in value since I bought it. My siblings want to assume my current mortgage. Can I wait three to five years for them to refinance to come up with the equity they will owe me? Any tax consequence? — Edwin C.

Dear Edwin: Your letter is a bit sketchy. Are you married? Did your wife live in the house with you? Presuming you are married and your wife lived in the principal residence at least two of the five years before its sale, then up to \$500,000 of home sale profits will be tax-free under Internal Revenue Code 121.

Since the house has been rented for one year, that leaves a maximum of two more years for the title transfer if you are to qualify for the \$250,000 or \$500,000

home-sale tax exemption. Because your estimated sale profit is \$220,000, it doesn't matter if you are married, but it could be helpful if the sale profit exceeds \$250,000.

No, you don't need a realty agent. However, you still must make the required written disclosures to the buyers about any known defects, lead-based paint, etc. A real estate attorney should be consulted to be certain you comply with all the disclosure laws (just in case one of your siblings creates trouble later). A local title or escrow firm can usually handle the title transfer and arrange title insurance for the buyers.

The existing mortgage might be a problem. Does it contain a due-on-sale clause? If so and you want to be relieved of liability, your siblings will need to qualify to assume it. The lender is likely to require a one- or two-point assumption fee.

As for the finance gap between the sales price and the existing mortgage, you can carry back a second mortgage to produce monthly payments to you. This is much better and easier for you than collecting rent.

Must lender help defaulting borrower?

Dear Bob: My son was laid off his job and later rehired. During the layoff, he got behind on his mortgage payments. He received a notice of default from his mortgage lender. I thought lenders are supposed to advise borrowers of forbearance plans. What can my son do to stop the foreclosure? — Irvin J.

Dear Irvin: Legally, when a borrower falls behind on mortgage payments, the lender can proceed with the mortgage foreclosure. Proceedings can take as little as 21 days (in Texas). In most states, borrowers have three to six months to cure their default to avoid a foreclosure sale.

Lenders have no legal duty to work with borrowers who default. However, if your son has a VA or FHA home loan, there are procedures to delay foreclosure if the borrower cooperates. Your son should contact his lender, explain the reason for his default, and attempt to work out a mortgage reinstatement. Since he is back at work, he should pay the missing mortgage payments as quickly as possible to stop the foreclosure.

What should seller do



ROBERT BRUSS

when mortgage is paid off?

Dear Bob: When we sold our home 29 years ago, we carried back the first mortgage for our buyer. That loan will soon be paid in full. We know we need to give the homeowners the promissory note, marked paid in full. What else? — Virginia C.

Dear Virginia: When the loan is paid in full, you need to record either a deed of reconveyance (to cancel a deed of trust) or a satisfaction of mortgage (to cancel a mortgage). Such a recorded document clears the deed of trust or mortgage from the title.

Watch out for mortgage lender's junk fees

Dear Bob: We have been reading your wonderful articles for many years. Now we are buying our home from our landlord. I recall you warned about junk fees to avoid, such as underwriting, warehousing, verifications, documentation and escrow waivers. No real estate agent is involved. What other junk fees should we try to avoid? — Sasha H.

Dear Sasha: You remember my columns well. For readers not familiar with mortgage lender junk fees or garbage fees, these are unnecessary fees some lenders try to get borrowers to pay. They are pure profit to the lenders, who adopt creative names for these costly charges.


Presuming you are obtaining a new mortgage to help finance your home purchase, within three days after making your loan application, your lender should have supplied a "good faith estimate" of your loan charges. Honest lender fees might include an appraisal fee, credit report fee, loan fee (one point equals 1 percent of the amount borrowed), recording fee and title fee.

Compare the lender's good faith estimate with the actual lender charges on your closing statement when you take title to the home. Were any undisclosed

See BRUSS, Page B4

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Homes need to be cared for to keep them functioning properly and to preserve investment. Well-maintained homes sell more quickly and for more money than homes that are deteriorated and require repairs as well as money. Ever wish you could take care of your home just as easily as you take care of your car?

Have you established a credit history? If you're looking for a home loan, a loan agent or mortgage broker to find out what you need to order a credit report on you with you to find out what's going on in the region and keep you from being asked for a mortgage. It's not what you can't do, it's what you can't do before you get a loan.

Have you saved enough money for a down payment on a home? You can't get a home with as little as 3 percent down.

But, if you're interested in getting a mortgage with the lowest interest rate possible, you'll need to put 10 to 20 percent down and have good credit. Your mortgage broker can discuss your financing options with you.

The Closing: Finally, do you have time to buy a home? Many buyers underestimate the time involved in buying a home. Make yourself with good professional help.

Dian Hymer is author of "The Out, the Complete Home Buyer's Guide," Chronicle Books. She is a top-producing broker in the San Francisco Bay Area, a past president of the National Association of Realtors, and a past president of the Montclair Piedmont office. She can be reached at 510-231-4777.

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The mortgage process gets jammed — again

Just a few months ago, I wrote that the mortgage process was back to normal. It's out of control again. The main reasons are the lenders, who are backed up six weeks, but the banks are not helping much.



KAREN SENZIG
Mortgage Madness

Those who start the process today, should not expect to close until late January 2002.

Jack Chirico
Washington Mutual Bank

ness days and funding in three to five business days.

Bank of America and Washington Mutual (retail) are both quoting a minimum of eight to 10 weeks to complete the process.

"Those who start the process today (mid-November 2001) should not expect to close until late January 2002," said Jack Chirico at the Washington Mutual Bank home loan center in Oakland.

"The system is so jammed that it is extremely difficult to protect the interest rate locks on the loans that we already have in the system."

Considering that interest rates are the lowest in about 40 years, we hope that borrowers will be able to capture the opportunity.

And, those of us in the industry hope that all borrowers will be kind to their loan officers.

We did not create the system and we are dancing as fast as we can to the music being played. It's all part of Mortgage Madness.

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Montclair Mortgage with her husband Scott. She can be reached at 339-8511, fax: 510-339-3814, e-mail at ksenzig@aol.com. Please contact her with any mortgage questions and/or topics for discussion.

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

ATTENTION PUBLIC

Handy Classes

The Building Education Center in Berkeley provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. Some upcoming classes are "Furniture Making" a hands-on workshop, Monday through Friday, Nov. 26 to 30 and "Attic Conversions", Thursday, Nov. 29. For more information on classes and costs call the center. Contact Sydney at 510-525-7610 or visit the Web site at bldgducr.org.

Home Buying 101

Attend a free first time homebuyer's workshop. Senior Loan Consultant Stan Johnson of First Security Loans presents ongoing seminars for those interested in learning the ins and outs of homebuying. A variety of topics are covered, including how to buy for no money down. To register for a future seminar call 510-614-2433.

Real Estate Careers

Have you ever wondered about a career in real estate? Want to know what it takes? What type of schooling is involved? How do I prepare for the exam? The answers to your questions are available through the Noble Fields School of Real Estate. For more information call the Oakland office at 510-451-7977 or the main office, in San Francisco at 415-956-6169.

WCR INSTALLS JOHNSON

The Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter announced the date for their annual installation of officers. It will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 14. Outgoing President Denise Smith of Royal Realtors & Loan Services will pass the gavel to George Johnson of Ameristar. The ceremony and luncheon will be held at His Lordships, in Berkeley. The oath of office will be administered by the WCR Governor, Linda Ellen Anderson of Prudential Realty. For reservations call 510-482-8200. To learn more about WCR, visit their website at wcr.org.

MONSEF 2001 AAR PRESIDENT

Hadi Monsef of Mason Management will take over the reins from Ann Bracci of Gallagher & Lindsey, as the 2002 President of the Alameda Association of Realtors. The inauguration is scheduled

for Thursday, Dec. 13, at 11 a.m. with a Social Hour. The event takes place at the Oakland Yacht Club, on Pacific Marina, in Alameda. To reserve your place call Kristin McMahon at the AAR office, 510-523-7229.

OAR 98TH INAUGURAL

The Oakland Association of Realtors is accepting reservations for their upcoming 98th Inaugural Luncheon. The 2001 President, John Holmgren of Holmgren & Associates will hand over the gavel to the 2002 President, Evelyn Walker of Coldwell Banker. It will be held on Friday, Dec. 7, at 11:30 a.m., at the Claremont Resort Hotel. A special presentation will be made to the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. For tickets call Judith Boren at 510-838-3000.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

One hundred years and still going strong. Reserve Thursday, Dec. 13 as the date for the upcoming Berkeley Association of Realtors Inaugural. A dinner-dance will take place at the Claremont Resort Hotel, with a cocktail hour beginning at 6 p.m. Outgoing President Steve Yoshimuro of Nakamura Real Estate will welcome incoming President Miriam Ng of Korman & Ng. For ticket information call Don Clark at 510-848-4288.

WINE COUNTRY TOUR AND DRE CREDITS

Investment Property Exchange Services and Fidelity National Title present "The 2001 Wine Country Tour." Included with the tour is an opportunity to earn 45 hours of DRE credits. The tour is Wednesday, Nov. 28. Visit three wineries, enjoy a relaxing lunch and earn those credits. To register contact Chris Stevens at 925-997-6381.

ASSISTANT TRAINING

The Oakland Association of Realtors is offering "The Assistant Training Program", a four part course to train real estate assistants. This course is being presented in cooperation with the Contra Costa and Delta Association of Realtors. Real Estate Business Service, Inc., a subsidiary of The California Association of Realtors will instruct. Assistants will learn the steps of the transaction, what they can and cannot do and technology to make their jobs easier. The program is held on Dec. 4, 6, 11 and 13. The location is the Contra Costa Association of Realtors in Walnut Creek. The fee for the complete four course program is \$195 or \$75 per course. For registration or an informational flyer contact Laura Bailey at 925-295-9238.

LICENSE RENEWAL

Renew your real estate license. Attend and earn all 45 DRE credit hours at once. The seminar includes Agency, Ethics, Trust Funds and Fair Housing. The seminar meets from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Friday, Dec. 7. The instructor will be "The Real Estate Guys" talk show host, Charlie Krackeler. Seminars are

held in a variety of Bay area locations. For more information about attending to renew your license call 1-800-54-RENEW.

GOT SPEAKER?

Kathleen Adams of First American Home Buyers Protection is the 2002 Program Chairperson for the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter. Adams is looking for speakers for the Chapter's monthly meetings. If you are interested in doing a presentation for the group or want to recommend someone contact Adams at 800-444-9030.

INTERNET PORTAL

Realtors are invited to experience www.realtor.org, a new online gateway launched by the National Association of Realtors. It pledges to put the power of the Web at Realtors' fingertips. The new site promises to be the premier portal for the real estate community. It features advanced tools and technology and allows for interaction with peers throughout the industry. Realtor.org combines into one information portal and number of existing sites. Check it out.

CAMB AND CARL NEWS

CAMB

The California Association of Mortgage Brokers (CAMB) strives to keep mortgage professionals educated and informed. A dinner meeting is held monthly, with guest speakers discussing timely topics. Networking kicks off each CAMB meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of each month. To find out more call the CAMB Hotline at 925-275-2663.

CARL Christmas

Mark your calendars. The CARL Christmas Cocktail Party is on Thursday, Dec. 6. Crow Canyon Country Club is the location. Unwrapped toy donations are appreciated for the Toys for Tots Program. For more details or call the CARL Hotline at 925-746 1847.

Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morn-



BOBBIE REID

ing Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held every Wednesday at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic boulevard. Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m.

Breakfast refreshments are served. Need info? Want to recommend a speaker? Call Pat Johnson of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925-546-3300.

WHO'S ON FIRST?

Bob Munoz, head of Independent Real Estate Brokers Corporate announced a new addition to the company, real estate agent Nancy Randhawa. Randhawa speaks English and Hindi. To say welcome call her at 510 276 7900.

Georgia Richardson has announced the addition of Rosamund Rosamund to Richardson Real Estate Services in Oakland. To say congrats call Greene at 510 569 3499.

Someone new at your company? Something special your company is doing? Changing locations? Putting on a seminar? Let me know I'd love to let the world know. All my contact info is listed below.

WHAT'S UP DOC??

I need your information for this column. Fundraisers, meetings, announcements, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company).

I want to know it all. Information deadline is two weeks before the event.

There are three convenient ways to reach me. E-mail to bobbierid@dotplanet.com. Fax me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

Real estate assistant training

So you need an assistant, but don't have the time to train one? Or, have an assistant, but they need additional training?

Make your job as a real estate agent easier and be more productive. Hire an assistant and provide professional training. Give your present assistant an opportunity to excel with professional training. Try this new program for real estate assistants.

The Oakland Association of Realtors is offering a four-course program for real estate assistants, "The Assistant Training Program." This program is being presented in cooperation with the Contra Costa and Delta

Association of Realtors. Facilitators for the program are Real Estate Business Service, Inc., a subsidiary of The California Association of Realtors.

The program is from 1 to 4 p.m., on Dec. 4, 6, 11 and 13. Participants are welcome to sign up for any of the courses, or all four.

The fee for the complete four-course program is \$195. Courses taken separately are \$75 each. The location is the Contra Costa Association of Realtors in Walnut Creek.

For registration or an informational flyer contact Laura Bailey at 925-295-9238.

— Bobbie Reid

This week's
Open Home
Guide is on
page B7

Join us
**December 2, for the
COLDWELL BANKER
Open Home Festival**

With today's low interest rates and thousands of homes available throughout Northern California, you could be welcoming the New Year in your new home!



36 Windward Hill

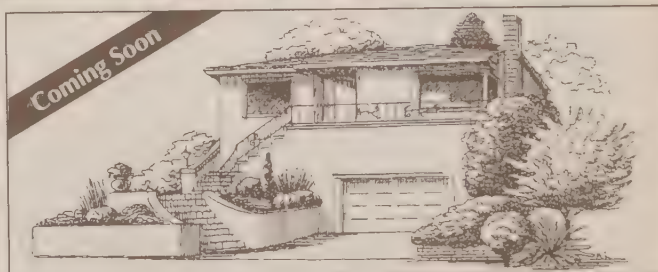
This gorgeous Hiller Highlands town home boasts of being a 2-story, down slope, end unit, featuring 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, built-ins, hardwood floors, a huge garden patio, and glorious 3 BRIDGE views!

To be offered at \$635,000

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KENSINGTON GEM



Coming Soon

Fantastic 3BD, 2BA completely renovated home. Light-filled with splendid sweeping Bay views. Bright, open kitchen, formal dining room, living room w/vaulted ceilings and fireplace. Gleaming hardwood floors. Quality throughout, top of the line appliances and much more. Walk to shops and restaurants.

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1 Kelton Court, #1A

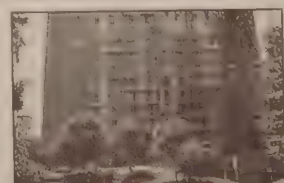
Located just a short walk to Piedmont Avenue shops and restaurants, this airy & light condominium with secured entry, underground parking & a quiet atmosphere offers convenience and style! A wall of glass in the living and dining areas open to a private patio allowing the sun to pour in.

* 1 bedroom, 1 bath

* Efficiently designed kitchen

* Brand new wall to wall carpet, fresh paint throughout

For a virtual tour of this condominium visit me at www.nahidmbb.com.



Nahid Nassiri
Your Best Move
(510) 287-5770

For a virtual tour of this spacious home, visit me at www.nahidmbb.com

Bruss

FROM PAGE B2

remove them. If the lender refuses to cancel previously undisclosed junk fees, borrow from another lender.

Realty agent says teams get homes sold

Dear Bob: As a realty agent, I strongly disagree with your recent comments suggesting home sellers not list their homes for sale with numbers agents who take many listings and have lots of personal assistants, knowing only a percentage of their listings will sell.

My team of eight people, and nearly all teams I have come in contact with, average selling a very high percent of their listings (mine is over 90 percent). My sales time is one-third of our local multiple listing service average.

The bottom line is that with my team of professionals, I can sell more homes faster and for more dollars than the average realty agent alone. Do you really think I would take on the responsibility of payroll, management and planning without being more successful — Gene R.

Dear Gene: With eight people on your payroll, you are running a mini-brokerage. You neglected to tell us how many home listings you carry at one time. Do you really get to know (or care) about each home seller?

When I go to a professional, such as a physician, dentist or

lawyer, I expect to receive his or her personal attention. Yes, it's fine that an assistant makes my appointment and greets me, but I insist on receiving the professional's service, for which I'm paying.

I question, with your team of eight, if you personally have much time to work with each seller. Sorry, I can't recommend mass-production real estate sales service.

Quitclaim deed conveys whatever interest you own

Dear Bob: About a month ago, I received a letter from the bank that handled my mother's estate about a year ago. I thought the estate was all cleared up. Now I am asked to sign a quitclaim deed to her house. Although I already received my share of the inheritance, do you think I should sign the quitclaim deed? — Don W.

Dear Don: When you sign a quitclaim deed, you convey whatever interest in the property you might own. It could be full fee simple absolute title. Or it could be a partial interest. Or it could be no interest at all.

For some reason, the bank that probably acted as administrator or executor of your mother's estate wants your signature on that quitclaim deed.

Before signing, find out what the real reason is. Also, consult your lawyer to review the papers and to find out if signing that quitclaim deed has any benefit for you.

Fed's lack of aggression sends fixed rates up

Federal Reserve's recent actions are reflected in the 1-year ARM average

McLean, VA — In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 6.51 percent, with an average cost of 0.8 point (1 point equals 1 percent of the loan amount), for the week ending November 16. This bellwether rate rose 6 basis points from 6.45 percent last week. A year ago, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.73 percent.

The average for the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage this week is 5.98 percent, with an average cost of 0.8 point, up from 4 basis points from last week when the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 5.94 percent. A year ago,

the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.41 percent.

One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.06 percent this week, with an average cost of 0.8 point, down 24 basis points from last week's average of 5.30 percent. This time last year, the one-year ARM averaged 7.25 percent.

"Speculation in the market that the Federal Reserve may not act as aggressively as investors had expected caused long-term mortgage rates to move up this week," said Frank Nothaft, Freddie Mac deputy chief economist. "But this slight bump up in rates is consistent with most economic forecasts and does not signal an end to current low mortgage rates. These low rates should act as an important stimulant to the housing industry."



Publisher's Notice

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. "Familial status" includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Building Ed Center classes

The Building Education Center in Berkeley provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends.

Some upcoming classes

are "Furniture Making" hands on workshop Nov. 23 through Friday Nov. 26 and "Atic Conversion" Thursday, Nov. 29. For more information on classes and costs call Peter. Contact Sydney at 510-525-7610 or visit the web site at bldgeduc.org

Please recycle this newspaper



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Edith Marston
Voice Mail: (510) 267-1111

MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE

When it's your move...

EL CERRITO 7302 Manila Ave......\$389,000
Move-in condition. Three bedrooms and one updated bathroom with loads of cabinets, dining area with built-in buffet, living area, and new skylights, hardwood floors throughout, exceptional storage. Open 2-4
Barbara Kaplan 510-559-8111

RICHMOND ANNEX 5815 Highland Ave......\$379,000
Super View! Lovely home on large lot in popular neighborhood. Features hardwood floors throughout, fireplace, big country view area, redwood deck with lovely hill views. Open 2-4
Rosita Thornton 510-559-8111

RICHMOND/EL SOBRANTE 4363 Nelson Dr......\$289,000
Beautifully landscaped and maintained three bedroom home with furnace, dual pane windows and hardwood floors in "plantation" shades in living/dining room. Quiet street setting. Open 2-5
Bonnie Scott 510-559-8111

RICHMOND ANNEX 2620 San Mateo.....\$269,000
Affordable Richmond Annex. Pleasant small home features bath, large living room, nice deck and rear patio. In very good great neighborhood. Open 2-4
Joan Underwood 510-559-8111

7502 Fairmount Ave., El Cerrito • (510) 527-9111

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JUST LISTED

5609 Amy Drive • \$569,000
Charming 1940's Rockridge Home.
2 BD/1 BA. Remodeled kit. & bath.
Spacious front garden & level yard. LR w/frplc.
1st Open Sunday, Nov. 25th 2-4:30pm

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by
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(510) 428-0900
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Montclair



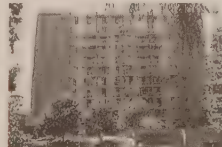
Each office is independently owned and operated.

Open Sunday 11/25



ROCKRIDGE BETWEEN COLLEGE & BROADWAY.....\$595,000
Sweet Craftsman bungalow with all original detailing including molding, wainscoting & built-ins. New roof on home & one-car garage, level yard, easy walk to BART, library & restaurants.
5444 Manila
Caroline Peters 510-339-8400

COZY MONTCLAIR CHARMER.....\$459,000
Close to Montclair Village. Traditional archways, random plank hardwoods. Level rear patio in a woody setting.
1100 Mountain Blvd.
Jennifer Arthur 510-339-8400



SOPHISTICATED STARTER.....\$199,000
With nothing to do but move into this charming condo w/ fresh paint & new wall to wall carpet. Walk to Piedmont Ave. shops and restaurants. Close to transportation.
1 Kellon Court #1A
Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

By Appointment



PIEDMONT TRADITIONAL HOME.....\$1,598,000
With elegant crown molding in formal dining & living rooms & extra front room for library. Kitchen was in Sunset Magazine. 5+ bedrooms, 3+ baths, lower level for children's play room or home office, 5 rooms on upper level.
Caroline Peters 510-339-8400

By Appointment

HAVE TEENAGERS OR IN-LAWS?.....\$879,900
This 3600 sq. ft. house is for you! In-law unit with full kitchen, living room, 2 bedrooms & 1 bath, separate office with outside entrance, .75 acre flat lot backs to creek, light & airy, RV/Boat parking, walk to town and schools.
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200



PRICE REDUCED IN LOWER MONTCLAIR.....\$879,500
2 year old home with traditional floor plan and level back yard for entertaining or play. Stone decks, 4 bedrooms (3 on upper floor), 3 full baths, huge family room.
Caroline Peters 510-339-8400

NEW ON MARKET IN DANVILLE.....\$845,000
Huge 5 bedroom + den, 3.5 bath beauty with marble entry, open kitchen w/hood, luxurious master bedroom w/ coffered ceiling, 2-way fireplace & retreat. Much more!
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

YOU MUST SEE THIS TO BELIEVE.....\$825,000
This spectacular custom designed Montclair home in European style features panoramic 3-bridge bay views. Walls of glass bring the outdoors in and open to the level garden. No detail has been overlooked, no space has been wasted...Don't miss this opportunity!
Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400



COUNTRY CHARM.....\$799,900
Nestled on a quiet cul-de-sac, steps from Roundhill Country Club, beautifully updated and remodeled ranch on large, private level lot. New gourmet kitchen features maple cabinets, granite counters, cherry floors and upper end stainless steel appliances. Great room with view of yard and pool.
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

By Appointment

STYLISH TRADITIONAL.....\$774,500
Price has been reduced on this lovely sprawling rancher on the Westside. 4 bedroom, 3 full bath. Huge living room, full dining room, solar heated pool. Sellers motivated!
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

TOP OF THE HILL WITH OCEAN VIEWS.....\$499,000
Hardwood floors, in-law unit, enclosed patio, terraced yard, beautiful fireplace in living room. Move-in condition.
Gary Robinson 510-339-4000



PERFECTION PERSONIFIED.....\$499,000
For beauty, warmth and ease of living, you won't find anything better than this outstanding 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath "villa." Set in a Mediterranean courtyard complete with a fountain, the serenity of a canyon view and total privacy await you. The master bedroom suite boasts a walk-in closet, spa tub and is completely separate from the remaining 2 bedrooms. All in pristine condition - to see it is to love it!
Hal Marcus 510-339-4000

MONTCLAIR YET CLOSE TO EVERYTHING!.....\$498,000
5 min. to BART, 10 min. to Berkeley. Great access to schools, shopping, freeway. One-level home in near perfect condition, w/master bedroom suite and private 3rd bedroom good for an in-law.
Jim Schubert 510-339-4000

SWIM YOUR SUMMERS AWAY.....\$459,000
4 bedroom, 2 full bath, 1700 sq. ft. New windows, new doors, wood blinds, ceiling fans. In-ground pool, newer master shower and flooring.
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

By Appointment



EVERY REALTOR'S DREAM.....\$439,000
Gorgeous curb appeal, old fashioned wood shutters, entry, cathedral ceilings, Barber carpet throughout. Gourmet kitchen w/garden window, 4 bedrooms. Paver patio, detached wooden overhang.
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200



TOTAL REMODEL.....\$429,000
Maple kitchen w/Corian counters, tile floors & appliances. New oak floors in living room & dining room, new carpet in all 3 bedrooms. Newer windows, new roof and double pane windows. 2 car garage.
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

NEW DUPLEX LISTING!.....\$329,000
Cute side by side units. 2 bedroom/1 bath each. Great neighborhood. Ideal for extended family. Probate A deal!
Teresa Chan 510-339-4000

BEST BUY.....\$275,000
Very large 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Remodeled kitchen. Very cute. Ready to move in. Near schools and freeways.
A.D. Nassiri 510-339-4000

BETTER THAN RENTING.....\$269,000
Great value for the area. Needs TLC. Serious buyers only. Drive by 3145 Coolidge. 3 bedroom/1 bath. Call Teresa Chan 510-339-4000

Our offices offer RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES - contact Anna Jensen for further information • (510) 339-8400

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA
 1601 Calhoun St - \$374,500
 1601 Cambridge Dr - \$510,500
 2300 Clinton Av - \$409,000
 251 Creedon Cr - \$1,244,000
 251 Crays Ct - \$762,500
 2508 Jackson St - \$490,000
 2508 Kingston Ln - \$362,500
 2508 Liberty Av - \$522,000
 2508 Lincoln Av - \$491,000
 1572 Lincoln Av - \$695,000
 2509 Lincoln Av - \$490,000
 3457 Oleander Av - \$370,500
 167 Orr Rd - \$460,000
 8 Pioneer Ct - \$551,000
 152 Ratto Rd - \$670,000
 51 Salmon Rd - \$659,000
 2065 San Antonio Av - \$487,000
 2109 San Antonio Av - \$480,000
 507 Taylor Av - \$375,000
 1311 Webster #E11 - \$220,000
 609 Windemere Isle - \$528,000

ALBANY
 1080 Neilson St - \$479,500
 545 Pierce St #130 - \$287,000
 1055 Santa Fe Av - \$382,000
 1055 Santa Fe Av - \$370,000
 1514 Sonoma Av - \$474,000
 640 Spokane Av - \$540,000
 949 Stannage Av - \$346,000
 1023 Talbot Av - \$380,000

Berkeley
 1412 10th St - \$323,000
 2311 7th St - \$170,000
 1570 9th St - \$349,000
 2449 Acton St - \$400,000
 1203 Alston Wy - \$460,000
 1515 Benvenue Av - \$268,000
 1355 Berkeley Wy - \$352,000
 1431 Bonita Av - \$717,000
 2251 Carleton St - \$620,000
 919 Channing Wy - \$301,000
 800 Delaware St #2 - \$215,000
 1402 Edith St - \$465,000
 3110 Ellis St - \$429,000
 1561 Euclid Av #2 - \$330,000
 780 Euclid Av - \$777,000
 1122 Francisco St - \$325,000
 2628 Grant St - \$240,000
 1262 Haskell St - \$362,000
 1123 Page St - \$350,000
 2832 Piedmont Av - \$650,500
 1310 Poe St - \$272,000
 1828 Prince St - \$494,000
 1507 Russell St - \$300,000
 1851 San Ramon Av - \$690,000
 731 Santa Barbara - \$445,000
 2410 Valley St - \$423,000
 2728 Wallace St - \$437,000
 1207 Ward St - \$350,000

EL CERRITO
 1641 Arlington Bl - \$420,000
 536 Bonnie Dr - \$450,000
 7757 Terrace Dr - \$340,000

EL SOBRANTE
 710 Bayview Ct - \$325,000
 800 Del Valle Cr - \$185,000
 4397 Fieldcrest Dr - \$331,000
 24 Kirkpatrick Dr - \$329,500
 5733 Robinhood Dr - \$270,000
 5872 Robinhood Dr - \$300,000
 3430 S P Dam Rd #36 - \$158,000
 5520 Sobrante Av - \$395,000
 101 Travalini Ct - \$375,000

EMERYVILLE
 4 Admiral Dr #B43 - \$286,000
 6363 Christie #122 - \$288,000
 3 Commodore #B35 - \$388,000
 44 Emery Bay Dr - \$241,000

OAKLAND
 1748 100th Av - \$160,000
 1250 102nd Av - \$225,000
 1725 102nd Av - \$205,000
 2136 102nd Av - \$154,500
 2016 106th Av - \$285,000
 2380 108th Av - \$251,500
 2050 109th Av - \$215,000
 2942 22nd Av - \$235,000
 2016 27th Av - \$137,000
 3736 35th Av - \$615,000
 1551 36th Av - \$160,000
 2216 38th Av - \$325,000
 472 38th St - \$325,000
 727 46th St - \$200,000
 574 48th St - \$460,000
 1600 51st Av - \$202,000
 855 52nd St - \$255,000
 936 55th St - \$241,500
 1231 58th Av - \$125,000
 2445 64th Av - \$222,000
 2642 68th Av - \$215,000
 1000 70th Av - \$167,000
 3050 75th Av - \$235,000
 2768 76th Av - \$170,000
 2732 77th Av - \$181,000
 1274 79th Av - \$210,000
 1575 79th Av - \$235,000
 64 7th St - \$330,000
 1611 81st Av - \$180,000
 3308 82nd Av - \$294,500
 1966 83rd Av - \$355,000
 485 8th St #100 - \$525,000
 2308 94th Av - \$399,000
 1633 98th Av - \$227,500
 2301 99th Av - \$210,000
 710 Aileen St - \$200,000
 553 Almanza Dr - \$245,000
 956 Appar St - \$350,000
 1425 Auseon Av - \$275,000
 8912 B St - \$300,000
 6538 Bancroft Av - \$120,000
 3029 Bantry Av - \$490,000
 4018 Barner Av - \$408,000
 3337 Birdsall Av - \$333,000
 3442 Birdsall Av - \$262,000
 4031 Brighton Av - \$550,000
 5422 Brookdale Av - \$240,000
 280 Caldecott #116 - \$232,000
 220 Caldecott #214 - \$232,000
 320 Caldecott #323 - \$260,000

720 Canyon Oaks #H - \$212,000
 16 Clara Ct - \$175,000
 1039 Clarendon Cr - \$800,000
 4362 Clarewood Dr - \$469,000
 6330 Colby St - \$442,000
 2469 Cole St - \$310,000
 4616 Congress Av - \$260,000
 4138 Culver St - \$263,000
 4507 Davenport Av - \$480,000
 3017 Davis St - \$325,000
 7909 Earl St - \$245,000
 5327 East 10th St - \$148,000
 549 East 21st St - \$230,000
 1228 East 22nd St - \$242,500
 2338 East 22nd St - \$239,000
 2828 Filbert St #6 - \$340,000
 5836 Florence Tr - \$426,000
 2948 Florida St - \$365,000
 11840 Foothill Wy - \$485,000
 801 Franklin St - \$195,000

11344 Golf Links Rd - \$650,000
 1211 Hampel St - \$475,000
 2653 Havenscourt Bl - \$275,000
 2449 Highland Av - \$172,500
 6439 Hillgass Av - \$853,000
 7424 Hillside St - \$175,000
 7327 Holly St - \$206,000
 1212 Holman Rd - \$569,000
 1918 Hoover Av - \$459,000
 4101 Howe St #105 - \$349,000
 297 Jayne Av - \$500,000
 4136 Kentwood Ct - \$285,000
 682 Kenwyn Rd - \$600,000
 210 Kerwin Av - \$144,500
 3402 Laguna Av - \$285,000
 9880 Lawlor St - \$239,500
 295 Lenox Av #306 - \$307,000
 5325 Lowell St - \$203,000

See SALES, Page B6

OPEN SAT. & SUN. 2-5 P.M.
122 PURCELL DRIVE
 PRIME LAGOON TOWNHOME
 BRITANNY LANDING, THE HARBOR
 Harbor Bay Isle, Alameda
\$685,000
 Beautiful 3 br, 2.5 bath home directly on water, 2370 sq. feet, very spacious rooms, large backyard with extensive decking, fantastic lagoon views, new paint and carpet, new roof, many upgrades, great home for entertaining. One block to Harbor Bay Health Club, Shoreline Park, and Earhart School.
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 OF
 HOMES & APARTMENTS



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SPACIOUS PIEDMONT CONTEMPORARY



122 CROCKER AVENUE

Swim laps everyday in the fabulous 20x45 indoor pool - a la Hearst Castle. Enjoy indoor/outdoor entertaining from the solarium/game room or do more formal entertaining in the spacious, mahogany-paneled living room. Celebrate life in a one-level home in an outstanding location.

Offered at \$1,395,000



Nancy Hinkley
 Realtor
 Office: (510) 428-0900
 Voice Mail: (510) 433-2842

Prudential
 California Realty
 342 Highland Ave.
 Piedmont

New Listing!
 Open Sundays
 Nov. 25th &
 Dec. 2nd
 1:30 - 4 pm

Listed at \$305,000

"FAIR LADY OF FAIRVIEW"
 ON THE BERKELEY/OAKLAND BORDER
 678 FAIRVIEW STREET, OAKLAND

This two bedroom, one bathroom bungalow is a sweetheart! Located on a quiet, one-block street in an up-and-coming neighborhood - one of those well-kept secrets!

Period details • all wood floors • welcoming porch
 spacious kitchen • formal dining room • generous garden
 whimsical play house

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1225 Solano Avenue, Albany, 94706

Gallagher and Lindsey, Inc.
 REALTORS

521-8181 **523-1010**

OAKLAND
 5448 FOOTHILL BLVD. NEWLY PAINTED & CARPETED. Great floor plan. zoned C-30. Huge family sized kitchen, solid quiet home with lovely backyard for picnics. \$239,500. Call Ruth Masonek, for appointment, 510-748-1101.

3261 BONA ST. LOCATED ON A CUTE LITTLE STREET. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Why rent when you can own? \$210,000. Call Kelko McDonah, 510-522-4449. Honesty & Diligence

2901 - 75th AVE. NEW PRICE ON HUGE TUDOR. Quiet & charming home with approx. 3000 sq. ft. & some view, 4+ bedrooms, 2+ baths, \$451,250. Mary Ann Herber, 510-568-2040.

3221 FLORIDA ST. PERFECT STARTER HOME IN THE LAUREL. With bonus detached office/studio space in the back. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Don't miss this one. It's priced to sell quickly! \$299,000. Michael Studebaker 510-748-1129

2118 - 25th AVE. A GREAT BUY ABOVE FOOTHILL. 2 houses on 1 lot each with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. \$185,000. Mary Ann Herber, 510-568-2040.

PANORAMIC WAY. 2 LOTS. These lots are located side by side in a beautiful wooded area with a great view of the San Francisco Bay Area. Priced at \$45,000. Kathy Ghiselli, 510-522-6425.

ALBANY
 555 PIERCE ST. #320. VIEW OF BAY & HILL FROM THIS CORNER UNIT. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, new floor. \$240,000. Moon Tam, 510-747-1620.

We speak Mandarin, Cantonese and English
 Moon Tam 747-1620
 Kitty Wan • 748-1128


SAN LORENZO
 16156 SILVERLEAF DR. DESIRABLE FLOOR PLAN. Great location! 3 units total. 4 bedrooms - 3 baths - family room with hardwood floor, kitchen with island, low maintenance yard. \$428,000. Moon Tam, 510-747-1620.

NEWARK
 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4. 8232 THORNTON AVE. ON LARGE LOT. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath home with updated tiled living room. Close to Schilling Elementary School. \$259,000. Michael Studebaker, 510-748-1129

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Piedmont, Oakland & Berkeley - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.

547 Blair Avenue New Listing \$1,325,000
 PIEDMONT. A lovely traditional home, sited on a sunny property that embraces crisp Bay views. 4BR/3.5BA & unique, level-out, private garden. Anian Pettit Tunney

2268 Leimert Boulevard \$1,249,000
 OAKLAND. Price Reduced! High end, high tech and high style. Brand new designer finishes plus a fabulous San Francisco city & Bay view! Debra J. Dryden

6899 Bristol Drive New Listing \$695,000
 OAKLAND. Dramatic 1996, 4BR/3BA contemporary with Bay and hill views. Gourmet kitchen w/eating area & adjacent family room, opens to lovely garden. Linda McClain

355 Arlington Avenue New Listing \$585,000
 BERKELEY. Very spacious 3BR/2BA 2-story home! Grand piano size living room! Eat-in kitchen opens to garden! 1/2 block to restaurants, shops, & SF transportation. Lori Lombardo

7028 Thornhill Drive \$689,000
 MONTCLAIR. Charming Montclair traditional with 3BR/2BA on a large level lot with delightful views. Exquisite detailing throughout. Rumpus room & new kitchen. Cherie Curliano

5927 Chaboly Terrace \$499,000
 ROCKRIDGE. Location! Just blocks to BART & Market Hall. 3BR/1BA, updated kitchen. Formal living room, formal dining room, hardwood floors & level yard. Mavis Delacroix

1848 Gaspar Drive New Listing \$499,000
 MONTCLAIR. Great value in Montclair, Bay views near the Village, kitchen/family room combo, 3BR/2BA upstairs plus home office with separate entrance. Judith Cain

1842 Gaspar Drive New Listing \$425,000
 MONTCLAIR. Great location near Montclair Village, this contemporary home offers a peek of the Bay in a wooded setting with 3BR/2BA and level-outdoor living. Judith Cain

Piedmont Elegance \$2,707,500
 Elegance! Over 1/3 acre. Beautiful gardens w/pool & spa. 5BR/5+BA, family & rumpus room! Angela Wei Grubb

Skyline View Estate \$2,500,000
 Phenomenal new Spanish with approx 6,500 sq. ft. Elevator. Courtyard, terraces & level garden. Debra J. Dryden

Piedmont Mediterranean \$1,935,000
 Mediterranean w/expansive gardens, European kitchen, and sumptuous master retreat. Sandra Vogl

Claremont Pines \$1,575,000
 Elegant architecture & exceptional detailing accent this 4 yr. old Mediterranean on 1/5 acre w/4BR/4BA. John Karnay

Piedmont \$1,525,000
 This elegant country French masterpiece in central Piedmont has been exquisitely redesigned. Mindy Scott

Stylish Claremont \$995,000
 Stylish updated 4BR/2.5BA Claremont home. Eat-in kitchen, Bay views, + 2BR/1BA in-law unit. Karen Starr

Piedmont English \$939,000
 Gracious English traditional located in prestigious Piedmont Estates. Designer colors. 4BR/4BA. Debbi DiMaggio

Distinctive Mediterranean \$849,000
 Elegantly crafted Montclair Mediterranean w/nearly 3000 sq. ft. 4 BR including master suite. Sherry Benninger

Upper Rockridge \$799,000
 This wonderful home combines Bay views w/comfortable living. Eat-in kitchen, rumpus & 4BR/3BA. Mindy Scott

Rockridge Craftsman \$699,000
 This special Craftsman has been completely remodeled. French doors lead to deck & garden. 2-2BR/2BA. Jean Simmons

Peaceful Montclair Setting \$549,000
 Quintessential Montclair home in woods, peaceful setting. Updated kitchen. 4BR/2BA. Two decks. John Karnay

Bleek & sunny, easy open floor plan with new kitchen & baths, large yard & views, Excellent location. Sandra Vogl

Classic Berkeley Craftsman \$395,000
 Classic 3BR/2BA Craftsman restored with original detail. Gourmet kitchen with granite & stainless. Jill Carrigan

Sweeping Bay Views \$349,000
 Contemporary townhome w/sweeping Bay views, 2BR/2.5BA. Close to parks & shopping. Sherry Benninger

Sophisticated Live/Work Loft \$295,000
 Luxurious townhouse-style loft. Sunny open spaces. Upgraded kitchen & bath. Donna DeBardi



ALAMO

1 The Alamo Collections

Now Selling! From \$95,000. Handcrafted one and two-story homes. Elegant formal living and dining rooms coupled with cozy family rooms with fireplace. Call (925) 562-3737 for directions and information on how you can own one of these fine residences. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

2 Alamo Highlands by Brannagh Dev.

Luxury Semi-Custom & Custom Homes From \$145,000. Ext. 1600 • Stone Valley Rd. East for 1 mile across Brentwood Country Club. Open Sun. 11-4pm & by Appointment. Call Dolores Ward at (925) 743-1330

3 Stone Valley Oaks

From low \$1,000,000's. Models now open! Luxurious homes estate size homes in Alamo oak-studded homes at Stone Valley Rd. Large homes up to \$2,500 sq. ft. 4-5BR. By appointment. See information at (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

AMERICAN CANYON

5 Bella Terra

From mid \$300,000's. Two new neighborhoods by Graystone Homes. Bella Terra 1, 4-5 bedrooms homes approx. 2,300 to 3,048 sq. ft. 2001-2002. Bella Terra 2, 3-4 bedrooms homes approx. 2,300 to 2,550 sq. ft. 2001-2002. Everything is included! Program features jacuzzi tub, washer and dryer, front and rear yard landscaping and more. Open 10-6, closed Mondays. www.graystonehomes.com

6 Chesapeake

Models Open! From the \$200,000's. One-story homes in a gated community. Napa Valley school district. 3-5 BR up to 2,375 sq. ft. many rooms open. lot 10. Open Mon 5-5:30, Tues-Sun 10-5:30. Call (707) 553-9105 or visit www.westpointerestate.com

7 Poppy Meadows

From the \$300,000's. Scholar homes offering below market pricing in the beautiful new steel-framed community. These 1- and 2-story single family homes range from 1,845 to 2,724 sq. ft. 4-5 BR. Take Hwy 80 North to 780 North to 140 North to Hwy 37 West to Hwy 22 North, left on Kimberly and left on Poppy Meadows Dr. Sales Office is open daily 10-5 except for Tues. 11-5. (707) 556-0607. www.hillshomes.com

8 The Preserve

Allowances Available From the high \$300,000's. 1- and 2-story 2738-3348 sq. ft. 3-4BR, 2-4BA, 3-car & 4-car garages. Large natural preserve, Napa Valley school district. Wooded homes. Hwy 28 West American Canyon Rd. Hummingbird Open 10-5. Sales Office is open daily 10-5 except for Tues. 11-5. (707) 556-0607. www.hillshomes.com

9 Amber & Trieste at LaVigne

From the low \$300,000's. By Shea Homes. Grand Opening. 3-6 bedrooms, from 1850 to 3377 square feet perfectly situated in the beautiful rolling hills of the Wine Country. Just off 80 East at American Canyon Road, north 2.5 miles. Open daily 10-5. 707-555-0293 or 707-554-0696. www.shahomes.com

ANTIOCH

10 Aspen Grove

From mid \$300,000's. Extraordinary residences with 3,132 to 4,835 sq. ft. up to 6BR & 3-4 car garages. Set on quiet cul-de-sac. 2715 Antioch Rd. (925) 932-0021. www.richmondhomes.com

11 The Hills at Deer Valley

New Release! Dramatic livable homes from the low \$300's to 2941 sq. ft. Up to 6 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3-car garages, large lot. Wooded homes. Napa Valley school district. Wooded homes. Hwy 41 Hillcrest to Deer Valley Rd. Blue Ridge to Galenwood. Open daily 10-5. 415-611-1111. For additional information, please call (925) 754-4061

12 The Terrace at Deer Valley

Now Open! New, flexible floor plans, 2139-3552 sq. ft. from the mid \$300,000's to 7 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3-car garages, large lot. Wooded homes. Napa Valley school district. Wooded homes. Hwy 41 Hillcrest to Deer Valley Rd. Blue Ridge to Galenwood. Open daily 10-5. 415-611-1111. For additional information, please call (925) 754-4061

13 Huntington Park

From the mid \$200,000's. 3-5BR detached homes from 1780-2185 sq. ft. features a contemporary new spin on classic ranch architecture. Loma Tera has the best of both worlds. Open daily 10-5. 925-734-6866. www.richmondhomes.com

14 Lone Tree Estates-Gallery Collection

From the mid \$300,000's. Allowances Available. 2-story, 3045-3345 sq. ft. 3-5BR, 2-4BA, 3-car garages, large lot. Wooded homes. Napa Valley school district. Wooded homes. Hwy 41 Hillcrest to Deer Valley Rd. Blue Ridge to Galenwood. Open daily 10-5. 415-611-1111. For additional information, please call (925) 754-4061

15 Lyon Ridge

From the mid \$300,000's. William Lyon Homes Inc. presents 4 & 5 BR homes, tucked among the hills. Dabco vineyard. Four floors, 2500-3434 sq. ft., 3 car gar. flex ops. 925-575-0167

16 Mira Vista Ridge

From the low \$300,000's. 4 and 5BR, up to 3600 sq. ft. with 3-car garages. Water and hillside views. Dabco vineyard. Open daily 10-5. 925-575-0167. www.seenhomes.com

17 Hummingbird Springs

From the low \$300,000's. New neighborhood of estate style homes up to 3212 sq. ft., 4-6BR, 3 car garages. Near shopping, schools & parks. Hillcrest to Lone Tree. 925-755-9270. www.seenhomes.com

18 Provence at Laurel Ridge

From the \$300,000's. NOW SELLING. Lux single home. home designs up to 3212 sq. ft. 4-6BR, 4BA, 3-car garages. Hwy 41 to Lone Tree Way, off on Deer Valley Rd. on Pineapple Ranch, left on Terraço Open Tues-Sun 10-5. Mon 3-5 (925) 779-3407. www.richmondhomes.com

19 Terraço at Laurel Ridge

From the \$300,000's. Grand Opening Unit 100. Living at its most affordable! Enjoying new single family neighborhood with home designs up to 3212 sq. ft. 7 BR, 4BA, 4 car garages. Great location. Hwy 41 to Lone Tree Way, left on Pineapple Ranch, left on Terraço Open Tues-Sun 10-5. Mon 3-5 (925) 779-3407. www.richmondhomes.com

20 Tourelle

From the mid \$300,000's. New Release! Richland's 4-6BR 3-4 car gar., 1-2 beds, 2715-3038 sq. ft. 10-12 bedrooms, 4-5 car garages. Dramatic views. Lone Tree/Golden Gate. Open Wed-Fri 10-5. Sat 11-5. Sun 11-5. 925-786-8853 or www.richmondhomes.com

21 Viera Ranch

From the high \$200,000's. 1-2 stories, 9-10 bedrooms, 2-3 baths. Great lot sizes! (925) 786-8853. X Street, Hillcrest & Wild Horse Way, 4486 Palmdale Way. www.richmondhomes.com

BRENTWOOD

21 Bolvedere

From mid \$200,000's. Models Open! 100 floor plans to choose from. Single-family homes from 1412 to 2535 sq. ft. Open daily 10-5. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

22 Brentwood Hills

From the mid \$200,000's. Now Selling. Alfessa & Serena in Brentwood Hills. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

23 California Orchard

From the \$300,000's. Great location, great school. Close to the golf course. From 3000 to 3500 sq. ft. 3-4BR, 2-3BA, 1400-1750 sq. ft. KB Home 925-240-7703

24 Campanello

From high \$300,000's. Biggest, most luxurious in Brentwood. 4-5 story homes up to 4,500 sq. ft. 4-5BR, 3-4BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

25 Dry Creek

From the \$300,000's. Coming soon! Master plan golf course community, 1-2 story homes up to 4,500 sq. ft. 4-5BR, 3-4BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

26 Kearstone

From the \$300,000's. Mountain Homes. One family home designs ranging from 1555-2852 sq. ft. Call sales office for info. open daily 10am-5pm. From Hwy 4 East Balfour Rd. South, in Ft. Rye near San Diego. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

27 Heritage Grove

Priced From the low \$300,000's. Spacious, beautifully designed 3-5 bedroom homes in some of Brentwood's largest lots. Near shopping, schools, golf courses. Open Monday 11-5, Daily 10-5. Signature properties. (925) 513-1057. www.sgrgroup.com

BRENTWOOD

28 Homecoming III

From \$299,000. 4 bedroom, single story homes. Located on the beautiful Crest of Homecoming. Hwy 41. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

29 Lyon Rhapsody

From the mid \$200,000's. Lyon Rhapsody features 3-4 bedrooms homes from approx. 1,200 to 2,000 sq. ft. with flexible open options. Close to Lodi shopping, schools and arts. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

30 Meridian Pointe

From the low \$400,000's. Beautifully designed craftsman-style homes located off Fwy 94 & Minnesota. By Kip Homes. 2252-3677 sq. ft. 4-6BR and variety of floor plans. Open from 11am to 5pm. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

31 Parkview at Garin Ranch

From high \$200,000's. A collection of 6 home designs from 3 to 5BR in a master-planned setting. Open 10-5 Tues-Sun, 1-5 Mon. Signature Properties. (925) 240-1335. www.sgrgroup.com

32 Providence

Upper \$200,000's. Providence in Brentwood offers the Bay Area's most affordable homes. Our 3-4BR in this serene country setting range from 1,515 sq. ft. to 2,000 sq. ft. Call (925) 240-1335 or visit www.shahomes.com

33 Pinelure at Shadow Lakes

From the \$300,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, single family homes from 1,800 to 2,400 sq. ft. within master-planned golf course community. Seven floor plans, 2-3 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, 2-3 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

34 Turnberry at Shadow Lakes

From the \$300,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, single family homes from 1,800 to 2,400 sq. ft. within master-planned golf course community. Seven floor plans, 2-3 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, 2-3 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

35 Inverness at Shadow Lakes

From the \$300,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, single family homes from 1,800 to 2,400 sq. ft. within master-planned golf course community. Seven floor plans, 2-3 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, 2-3 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

36 Traditions by Ryder Homes

From \$299,990. Models now open! Stunning craftsman and California traditional designs. 3-5 BR and up to 2,750 sq. ft. Best character homes. Open daily 10-5. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

37 PARK CLYDE

From the mid \$300,000's. New Homes! 2010-2012 sq. ft. All on over 1/4 acre lots with views. Open Tuesday 10-5. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

CONCORD

38 Claremont Estates at Crystall Ranch

From low \$200,000's. Estate-style homes in gorgeous setting. 3-5 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

39 The Enclave at Crystall Ranch

From upper \$200,000's. Luxury homes offering 4-5 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

40 The Pointe at Crystall Ranch

From upper \$200,000's. 4-5 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

41 Autumn Creek West

From the low \$200,000's. Dabco Premier Ten luxury estates. Close to schools and shopping. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

42 Diablo Ranch Estates

Priced from \$1,150,000. NOW SELLING! A limited number of luxury homes in an extraordinary location in the hills of Mt. Diablo. Spacious living, master suites from downtown & traditional architecture. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

43 Maque Ranch

From \$1,895,000. One magnificent custom home set on prime land. 6000 sq. ft. with exquisite views. 6000 sq. ft. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

44 Quail Gardens

Models Open! Located in prime area of Danville, this new neighborhood will feature its own swim pool and offer spectacular views. 3-4 BR homes. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

45 Stevens Ranch Estates

New Release. Priced from the high \$300,000's. 3-5 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

46 The Village at Old Blackhawk Road

From the \$300,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

47 Kensington

Now Open! From the low \$200,000's. Offering 3-5BR & 4-5BR homes. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

DUBLIN

48 Chantrelle at Dublin Ranch

From the low \$700,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

49 The Glen at Dublin Greene

From the mid \$600,000's. 4-5 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

50 Highgrove & Mayfield at Dublin Ranch

From the upper \$500,000's. By Shea Homes. 4 to 6 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

EL DORADO HILLS

53 Windsor Pointe

From the high \$300,000's. New homes with a custom touch. 3-4 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, 2-3 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

EL DORADO HILLS

54 Bishop Estates

From the low \$300,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

55 Bishop Estates

From the low \$300,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. www.taylorwoodhomes.com

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67 Bishop Estates

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68 Bishop Estates

From the low \$300,000's. 3-4 BR, 3-4 BA, 3-4 car garages. Call (925) 240-1335. [www.taylorwood](http://www.taylorwoodhomes.com)

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com

ALAMEDA	Size	Hours	Price
355 Arlington Ave The Grubb Co	380/258A	2-4	\$988,000
2140 Spaulding Ave May Carson, Thermal Properties	260/258A	Sun 2-4	\$380,000
1325 Parker St Kathy Close, Prudential CA	380/258A	2-4	\$398,000
1310 Channing Way Pacific Union	2 + 80/18A	2-4	\$280,000
7302 Manila Ave Barbara Kaplan, Marvin Gardens	380/258A	Sun 2-4	\$387,000
5332 Rosalind Ave Cynthia Banks, Security Pacific	260/18A	Sun 1-4	\$274,988
4363 Neilson Dr Bonnie Scott, Marvin Gardens	380/258A	Sun 2-4	\$298,500
678 Fairview St Arlene Bender, Berkeley Hills Realty	260/18A	Sun 1:30-4	\$305,000
6657 Baine Ave Open Sun. Lara Sato, Kame & Associates	380/258A	1-4	\$356,000
6232 Thornton Ave Open Sun. Gallagher & Lindsay, Michael Shadobaker	260/18A	2-4	\$258,000
614 Alvarado Rd Pacific Union	480/258A	2-4:30	\$1,575,000

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
355 Arlington Ave The Grubb Co	380/258A	Sun 2-4:30	\$588,000
2140 Spaulding Ave May Carson, Thermal Properties	260/258A	Sun 2-4	\$380,000
1325 Parker St Kathy Close, Prudential CA	380/258A	2-4:30	\$398,000
1310 Channing Way Pacific Union	2 + 80/18A	2-4	\$280,000
7302 Manila Ave Barbara Kaplan, Marvin Gardens	380/258A	Sun 2-4	\$387,000
5332 Rosalind Ave Cynthia Banks, Security Pacific	260/18A	Sun 1-4	\$274,988
4363 Neilson Dr Bonnie Scott, Marvin Gardens	380/258A	Sun 2-4	\$298,500
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614 Alvarado Rd Pacific Union	480/258A	2-4:30	\$1,575,000

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
7302 Manila Ave Barbara Kaplan, Marvin Gardens	380/258A	Sun 2-4	\$387,000
5332 Rosalind Ave Cynthia Banks, Security Pacific	260/18A	Sun 1-4	\$274,988

EL SOBRANTE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
4363 Neilson Dr Bonnie Scott, Marvin Gardens	380/258A	Sun 2-4	\$298,500

MORAGA

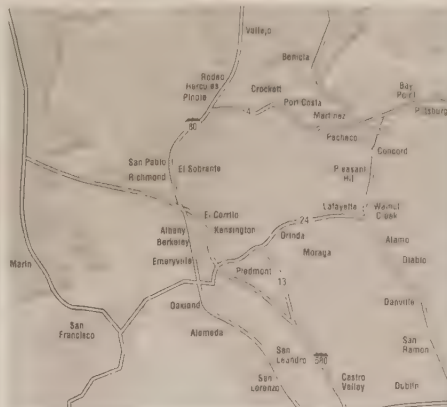
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678 Fairview St Arlene Bender, Berkeley Hills Realty	260/18A	Sun 1:30-4	\$305,000

NEWARK

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6657 Baine Ave Open Sun. Lara Sato, Kame & Associates	380/258A	1-4	\$356,000
6232 Thornton Ave Open Sun. Gallagher & Lindsay, Michael Shadobaker	260/18A	2-4	\$258,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
614 Alvarado Rd Pacific Union	480/258A	2-4:30	\$1,575,000



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The Montclair, The Piedmont, The Berkeley Voice,
The Journal & The Alameda Journal
Call 748-1688 or FAX 748-1679

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
132 Beechwood Dr Upper Rockridge The Grubb Co	480/48A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,575,000
6677 Sobrante Rd Montclair Wells & Bennett Realtors	3 - 8/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$625,000
6901 Chambers Dr Colette Ford, Prudential California	480/258A	Sun 2-4:30	\$788,000
815 Paloma Dr Crocker Highlands Pacific Union	380/28A	2-4:30	\$699,000
6699 Bristol Dr Oakland Hills The Grubb Co	480/38A	Sun 2-4:30	\$695,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
7028 Thornhill Dr Montclair The Grubb Co	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$588,000
1969 Cortesale Ave Haidah Chew, Prudential CA	380/25A	Sun 2-5	\$625,000
5515 Harbor Dr Rockridge Pacific Union	380/28A	2-4:30	\$619,000
5444 Manila Rockridge Better Homes, Caroline Peters	380/25A	Sun 2-4:30	\$595,000
5608 Army Dr Gene Boomer, Prudential-Montclair	260/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$568,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3701 Montclair Blvd Redwood Heights Pacific Union	480/258A	2-4:30	\$488,500
1848 Gaspar Dr Oakland The Grubb Co	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$488,000
7014 Sayre Ernie Section, Prudential CA	380/25A	Sun 2-4	\$488,000
6970 Broadway Terr. Montclair Open Sun. Helen Nicholas	380/18A	2-4:30	\$488,000
1100 Mountain Blvd Montclair Better Homes, Jennifer Arthur	380/25A	Sun 2-4:30	\$458,000
4323 Leach Candice Economides, Prudential CA	260/18A	Sun 2-4	\$429,000
1842 Gaspar Dr Oakland The Grubb Co	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$425,000
1400 Escalator Ave Monica Forester, Prudential Claremont	380/15A	Sun 2-4:30	\$425,000
49 Moss Ave Herman Luna, Prudential CA	260/18A	Sun 2-5	\$398,000
3647-49 Laurel Ave Laurel Pacific Union	1 - 80/18A	2-4:30	\$378,000
3024 Modesto Ave Blisswell Park Wells & Bennett Realtors	380/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$348,000
175 Capricorn Business Pacific Union	260/18A	2-4:30	\$345,000
250 Montecito Avenue # 206 Adams Point Wells & Bennett Realtors	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$298,000
3229 Arkansas Miller Lombard, Prudential-Montclair	260/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$289,950
1 Kellon Court #1A Better Homes, Khalid Khamis	160/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$198,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
18 Dorothy Pl. Open Sat. & Sun. Bonnie Fritts	480/48A	1:30-4:30	\$1,225,000

PIEDMONT

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
547 Blair Ave The Grubb Co	480/358A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,325,000
481 Seaside Pacific Union	380/28A	2-4:30	\$975,000

PINOLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2724 De La Brandeis Ct Nakamura Realty, Inc.	480/28A	Sun 1-4	\$475,000

RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5815 Highland Ave Rutha Thornton, Marvin Gardens	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$388,000
2820 San Mateo Joan Underwood, Marvin Gardens	260/18A	Sun 2-4	\$288,000

SAN LEANDRO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1609 Grati Ave. Bay-D-Wells Lyle C. Johnson	380/28A	2-4:30	\$534,000
3524 Victor Ave. Redwood Heights Christian Downer	380/18A	2-4:30	\$488,000
42 Dutton Ave Open Sat & Sun Tom Young	280/18A	2-4	\$388,000

SAN PABLO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2489 Greenwood Ct William Bryant, Prudential CA Realty	380/18A	Sun 12-4	\$248,888

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Reid

FROM PAGE B3

3644 Lyon Av - \$188,000
 2901 MacArthur #302 - \$145,000
 2917 MacArthur #4C - \$172,000
 1239 MacArthur Bl - \$195,000
 3212 Madeline St - \$299,000
 3131 Magnolia St - \$67,000
 738 Mandana Bl - \$370,000
 3419 Maple Av - \$310,000
 6101 Monadnock Wy - \$240,000
 2820 Montana St - \$165,000
 2920 Montana St - \$150,000
 193 Montecito #303 - \$189,500
 5815 Morse Dr - \$250,000
 7878 Ney Av - \$400,000
 4455 Oak Hill Rd - \$625,000
 651 Oakland Av #4A - \$371,000
 366 Oakland Av - \$392,000
 9512 Peach St - \$295,000
 1423 Peralta St - \$150,000
 722 Prospect Av - \$495,000
 3126 Robinson Dr - \$625,000
 44 Spy Glass #10 - \$410,000
 1425 Sunshine Ct - \$95,000
 3329 Suter St - \$295,000
 4219 Terrace St - \$430,000
 9301 Thermal St - \$325,000
 2533 Wakefield Av - \$210,000
 2333 West St - \$255,000
 56 Weybridge Ct - \$529,000

PIEDMONT

533 Blair Av - \$737,500
 360 Magnolia Av - \$883,500
 407 Moraga Av - \$525,000
 221 Mountain Av - \$1,172,500

RICHMOND

537 17th St - \$184,000
 637 25th St - \$245,000
 517 27th St - \$160,000
 555 5th St - \$210,000
 617 6th St - \$170,000
 857 8th St - \$375,000
 2736 Andrade Av - \$238,000
 1620 Cutting Bl - \$205,000
 1224 Fairway Dr - \$310,000
 5231 Fleming Av - \$180,000
 3120 Groom Dr - \$275,000
 2503 Lowell Av - \$170,000
 912 McLaughlin St - \$233,000
 4437 Meadowbrook - \$325,000
 3331 Morningside Dr - \$350,000
 3786 Northridge Dr - \$253,000
 2209 Ohio Av - \$400,000
 3824 Painted Pony - \$480,000
 804 Poppy Ct - \$361,000
 808 Poppy Ct - \$369,000
 1637 San Benito St - \$305,000
 411 South 17th St - \$245,000
 3100 Tulare Av - \$220,000
 479 W. Richmond Av - \$345,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 21
 LOWEST PRICE: \$220,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,244,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$490,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$531,024

TOTAL SALES: 8
 LOWEST PRICE: \$287,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$540,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$407,313

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 28
 LOWEST PRICE: \$170,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$777,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$411,232

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$340,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$450,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$420,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$403,333

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 9
 LOWEST PRICE: \$158,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$395,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$325,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$296,500

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 4
 LOWEST PRICE: \$241,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$388,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$300,750

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 117
 LOWEST PRICE: \$ 67,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$853,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$265,090
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$303,094

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 4
 LOWEST PRICE: \$525,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,172,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$829,625

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 25
 LOWEST PRICE: \$160,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$480,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$253,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$278,380

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech of Oakland which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office. All questions regarding this information and services provided by TitleTech should be directed to Bud Gorham at 510-568-7233.



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Pool & Tennis Court!

This extraordinary property features direct access to the private San Luis Park! The stately Mediterranean has 5BR & 3.5BA, library, grand living room & formal dining room. The large, double lot includes a level lawn & 3 tiled patios

Bebe McRae x145

\$2,300,000



726 Euclid Avenue

Spectacular Mediterranean Estate on a large lot. Designed by Arthur Davis, this home is a masterpiece on the market. Large (41 x 100 ft.) lot with unobstructed Bay view - a rare find! Library, butler's pantry & more

Tricia Swift x140



596 Euclid Avenue

An elegant, architectural traditional in the Berkeley Hills w/gorgeous Bay views. Richly detailed & appointed 5+BR, 3.5BA, wonderful floorplan w/decks, garden & a gourmet kitchen! Generous spaces include an expansive in-law

Anne Van Dyke x137

Susie Schevill x144

\$1,325,000



Designed by Ratcliff

In prestigious Claremont Court, this home has proportions with great charm! The property has 3 bedrooms, office, large family room, formal dining room, butler's pantry & a fenced yard!

Bebe McRae x145

\$1,100,000

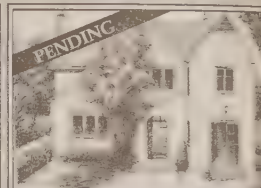


Elegant & Sophisticated!

A very special Mediterranean in the N. Berkeley hills! This 4BR home has been entirely renovated with great taste & beautiful finishes. Bay views & a large yard make this a rare opportunity!

Bebe McRae x145

\$995,000



50 El Camino Real

Seduction in Claremont: A Traditional home of 4+ bedrooms, master bedroom suite, au-pair possibility, big shop, 10,000 sq ft parcel

Paul Templeton x131

\$769,000



PENDING

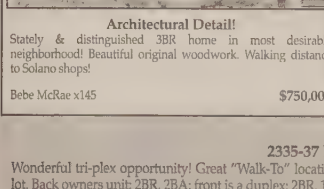
PENDING

54 Vincente Road ~ VIEWS & LOCATION

Rare, large parcel of view land in fabulous the Claremont Hotel. Two parcels were merged to create this incredible 32,000 sq. ft. lot. Mostly level, neighborhood of distinguished homes.

Faye Keogh x1276

\$1,600,000



Architectural Detail!

Stately & distinguished 3BR home in most desirable neighborhood! Beautiful original woodwork. Walking distance to Solano shops!

Bebe McRae x145

\$750,000

2335-37 Blake Avenue

Wonderful tri-plex opportunity! Great "Walk-To" location: U.C., bookstores, shops & restaurants. Two structures on lot. Back owners unit: 2BR, 2BA; front is a duplex: 2BR, 1BA & 3BR, 1BA.

Anne Van Dyke x137

\$625,000

OAKLAND

Vistas Of The World!

Views of the SF Bay & Tilden Park. Construction of this grand & majestic home on 2/3 acre is partially complete. Finish to your own taste!

Ron Eggherman x127

\$1,800,000

The Parkwoods ~ 220 Caldecott Lane #108-New Price!

Lovely 2BR, 2BA condo with hardwood floors, special lighting upgrades & decorator features. Luxury amenities include: security gate, pool, gym, saunas & lawns. Pets allowed!

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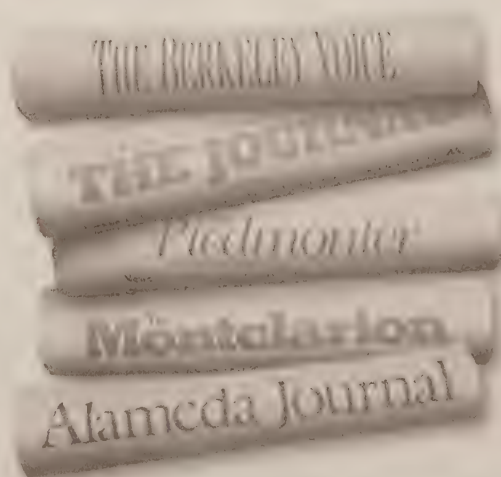
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SPORTS

• Friday, November 23, 2001 •

Section C

Inside Fall All-League selection [C2]

Arts The 'Nutcracker' marches on [C3]

A record made to be broken

Head-Royce runner heading to state — again

By Pete Elman
CORRESPONDENT

HAYWARD — On a perfect fall day for running, 1,700 high school athletes from all over Northern California converged Saturday on Hayward High School for the annual North Coast Section cross-country championships.

There were some surprises and exciting moments as several East Bay teams and individuals advanced to the California Interscholastic Federation (State) meet this coming weekend in Fresno.

The 3.1 mile course started on the school's soccer field, ran down to its track, up a small hill, around the loop again, then up a steeper hill before heading back down to the field. It culminated on a 100-yard straightaway to the finish line, where a busy NCS staff was standing by.

The Division V girls race was not close, as two-time state champ and future Duke Blue Devil Clara Horowitz of Head-Royce ran away from the pack

Prep cross country

Clara Horowitz of Berkeley won the Division V crown at the North Coast Section championships.



BERKELEY RESIDENT CLARA HOROWITZ owned the Hayward High School course record about one hour — until Ukiah's Amber Trotter smashed it by 1 1/2 minutes. Running in the North Coast Section championships Nov. 17, Horowitz won the Division V crown for the third straight year.

in a record-setting performance, taking the title in an impressive 17:45, finishing 76 seconds ahead of the next runner and breaking the mark set last year by Stanford freshman Sara Bei.

A Berkeley resident, Horowitz seems to be peaking in this, her senior year.

"I'm really happy with the way I ran — right now I'm getting ready for State. My training is

coming together," said the three-time NCS winner, who will be going for her third straight state title in Fresno.

As for her future, Horowitz is focused on the task at hand. "It's all about the state, and after that, the regionals, and hopefully the nationals."

She continued, "I'll be running the mile and two-mile again in the spring. I'm also really excited about Duke — I even already know who my roommate will be there," said a confident and happy Horowitz.

For the record, though, Horowitz's course record lasted about one hour, as Division I Ukiah senior Amber Trotter, ranked No. 1 in the state overall and in the top five in the country, blistered the course in 16 minutes and 15 seconds, shattering Horowitz's new record by a minute and a half, nearly two minutes ahead of the second-place finisher.

Postmeet
STAR IN THE HOUSE: The girls glowed as they received their first-place awards from legendary Oakland distance runner and Olympic medalist Regina Jacobs, who makes a point to attend these events. "It's always a lot of fun," she said.

OTHER RESULTS: On the boys' side, College Park took the Division I race, Logan's Ghebray taking individual honors. ACCAL champion Alex Enscoe of Berkeley finished 31st out of 129 competitors in the Division I race with a time of 16:45 ... Eureka

See HOROWITZ, Page C2

Duffy claims 3rd title

Senior sprints past Musante to collect title

By Phil Jensen
TIMES STAFF WRITER

HAYWARD — If anybody doubted Bridget Duffy's toughness, all they had to do was watch her in the North Coast Section Division IV girls' cross country championship meet Saturday.

St. Mary's High School's Duffy, who had not run four days last week due to illness, saw Bishop O'Dowd's Danilla Musante take the lead in their Division IV race with approximately one-half mile to go near the bottom of the course's final hill.

"I figured if I was in contention at the top of the hill, I would be fine," said Duffy about the approximately 300-yard incline.

Duffy surged and, sure enough, caught Musante at the top of the hill. She would not relinquish the lead again, as Duffy out-sprinted Musante to the finish line and won her third straight Division IV title with a time of 18 minutes, 6 seconds for the 3.1 mile course.

See DUFFY, Page C2

Berkeley's abrupt end to season

Unseeded Haybalers make short work of No. 4 Jackets

By Orlando Molina
STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — After an incredible year, the Berkeley High School girls' volleyball team's season is over, thanks to a 15-11, 15-9, 15-5 loss at the hands of San Benito on Tuesday's California Interscholastic Federation Division I match.

The unseeded Haybalers (28-8) kept things close throughout most of the match with great play up front from Kaylie Kortsen, who was instrumental in keeping the Yellow Jackets' 6-foot-5-inch weapon, Desiree Guillard-Young, quiet.

It also didn't hurt that Guillard-Young and company was off their game, committing a slew of hitting errors and allowing a host of diggable volleys to fall.

"We didn't defend well and it hurt us," Berkeley coach Justin Caraway said. "Balls were falling in between players and fingers were pointing. Someone should have made a move for it."

In the first game, the match was tight as both teams scratched their way to a 4-4 tie. But a 8-0 Haybalers' run, powered by a pair of Kim Dabo aces, gave San Benito a 12-4 lead.

Berkeley (26-7, seeded fourth) closed to within 13-11, but a Dabo kill and a long Berkeley return put the Yellow Jackets in a 1-game-to-0 hole.

The second game was just as tight as the first as a seesaw battle ensued. The lead changed hands six times before San Benito finally took control.

With the score knotted at 9 apiece, the Haybalers took advantage of the Yellow Jackets' miscommunication and fought past the imposing hands of Guillard-Young at the net to embark on a 7-0 run to take the game 15-9.

In the deciding game, Berkeley was just about out of gas and Caraway was out of patience de-



HIGH AT THE NET, Berkeley's Vanessa Williams spiked the ball. Playing the opening round of the Northern California championships on Nov. 20, the Yellow Jackets were turned back by the visiting San Benito Haybalers 3-0.

spite a 3-0 Berkeley lead in the early going.

And, as with the first two games, the Haybalers fought their way back to tie the game at five.

That was all the scoring Berkeley would do for the rest of the evening. San Benito jumped in the driver's seat after a pair of strong serves from Jacky Denton fell for aces. She'd add one more ace in the middle of a 10-0, and the Haybalers were on their way to a sweep.

When asked why Caraway didn't call a timeout during that stretch, he said it would have only delayed the inevitable.

"It wouldn't have made a difference," he said.

Baylor-bound Guillard-Young was limited to just three kills; Vanessa Williams had five kills and four digs in the losing cause.

North Coast Section championship

Berkeley 3, Bishop O'Dowd 0
BERKELEY — "Leave No Doubt" is the phrase inscribed

on the back of the warm-up shirts worn by the Berkeley High School girls volleyball team.

On Saturday night, the team followed through on its motivational decree and defeated Bishop O'Dowd in convincing fashion 16-14, 15-6, 15-8 for its first North Coast Section Division I championship since 1993.

The Yellow Jackets (29-6) came into their matchup against the No. 1-seeded Dragons (27-4) on the heels of a stirring comeback from behind win over Castro Valley on Thursday. It was clear from the outset of Saturday's match, that Berkeley was still riding on the emotions of its previous win.

"We came into tonight still on cloud nine," Yellow Jackets middle blocker Desiree Guillard-Young said. "We also felt that we'd worked too hard to lose this thing in our house, and we weren't going to let anything get in our way."

Not much did get in the way of the Yellow Jackets attack. Berkeley used a very consis-

tent service game and an overpowering net game to keep the Dragons on the defensive and visibly disjointed all night long.

"The biggest key for us tonight was that we didn't allow Bishop O'Dowd to go on any big runs," Berkeley coach Justin Caraway said following the win, which was his first over Bishop O'Dowd in his four years at Berkeley. "That's always been our problems with them in the past, we give up big runs and get in gigantic holes that we can't dig ourselves out of."

Guillard-Young, who before Saturday night had also known only defeat when it came to facing the Dragons, pounded home the championship-winning point on a short set from Danielle LaRue. Guillard-Young finished the night with eight kills and eight blocks.

"Our offensive game just wasn't there and it gave Berkeley a lot of easy passes tonight," Bishop O'Dowd coach Lisa New-

See JACKETS, Page C2

Panthers pass from playoffs

Murphy passes for 200 yards, 2 TD's in 2001 finale

By Joe Stiglich
TIMES STAFF WRITER

MORAGA — Cornerback Julian Hua and the rest of the Campolindo High School defense had its struggles last Saturday night with St. Mary's athletic receivers.

Hua came through with the biggest play of the night, however, intercepting a pass with 43 seconds left to ice the Cougars' 23-20 win in the first round of the North Coast Section 2A East Bay playoffs.

The interception came two plays after the Panthers' Courtney Brown caught a desperation deep pass against the 5-foot-9 Hua on a fourth-and-5 play that put the ball at Campolindo's 31 with 55 seconds left. Hua also got beat for a 46-yard touchdown early in the third quarter.

"He was a little shell-shocked tonight," Campolindo coach Kevin Macy said of Hua. "He was sort of sitting on his heels and was confused. For him to get that interception is healthy for him."

Matt Cunha-Rigby gave sixth-seeded Campolindo (7-4) the lead for good with a 27-yard field goal that broke a 20-20 tie with 2:41 left in the game.

Campolindo meets No. 2 seed Las Lomas (8-3) next week in the semifinals.

The Cougars' defense had all it could handle between St. Mary's downfield passing game, as well as running back Trestin George, who slashed his way to 109 yards and a touchdown for the No. 3 seed Panthers (6-5).

St. Mary's quarterback Steve Murphy hit tight end Chase Moore for a 74-yard touchdown in the second quarter, and went deep to Ryan Coogler for a 46-

See PANTHERS, Page C2



RON SALSIG
Range Rat

1-on-1 on the fairway

In the Oakland Raiders locker room there is a silver cup which, at least on Monday, had a prominent place in Jerry Rice's locker.

"That is my cup and I will keep it back," said Tim Brown. Indeed, the silver chalice is described to Brown. It says, "Jeffery Lynch Tim Brown Celebrity Shootout, 1st place, April 24, 2001, Pelican Hill CC."

And it held a prominent place in Brown's locker ... until Rice showed up.

When Rice joined the Raiders last summer, there was considerable speculation that there might be tension between these two — the best receiver to ever play the game and the all-time Raider leader in receptions, yardage and touchdowns.

In fact the two, who have side-by-side lockers, have related to each other as the best of friends. There is no jealousy, no animosity, no big egos, no ashing in epoch proportion ... at least in football.

Golf, now that's a different story.

Years ago, Brown organized a Tuesday skins game four-man with his teammates. The cup from his shootout (which he also seems to win with regularity) went to the player who won the most skins that week. And Brown always won, displaying the cup where it would be most visible.

Then Rice showed up and Brown met his match. Both shoot in the 70s.

"That cup is bragging rights for the whole week," Rice said with a smile on his face. "Last week I won down in Monterey."

When Rice talks football in front of his locker, he talks in a general sense about the game, with the implication that he does not want to offend. But when he talked golf in front of that cup on Monday he went into considerable detail, with passion.

"Last week there were carryovers to the point we had 24 skins on the line," he said.

"There were some real nervous guys. Two-foot putts looked like 20 footers. I got the skin and then I had to confirm it on the next hole, which I did with a two-footer that seemed to break three ways."

Football is a violent game, and in that arena Brown and Rice are like brothers. Golf is a gentleman's sport, and in that arena the two must be separated.

"You think it's competitive on the football field," Rice said, rolling his eyes. "These Tuesdays are something else. I had to take a separate cart. No way I'm riding with Tim. It might come to blows!"

The talk came back to football, and Brown and Rice were once again teammates, best of friends, joking amicably.

Just don't get them on the golf course.

Links: Prior to the Big Game the Cal alum beat the Stanford alum 33 1/2 to 32 1/2 in the golf course, the fifth straight year Cal took the Big Game Cup ... Former Cal golfer Charlie Wi has surpassed the PGA Tour single season earnings record with \$289,092, eclipsing two wins in Korea and one in China. The tour wraps up with the Hong Kong Open next week ... Former Oakland City champ Gary Sawyer, who once played at Skyline High, missed the cut by

See SALSIG, Page C2

Arts

BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Post-turkey shopping day giglets, dressing

There's lots of family stuff (and stuff) going on this weekend, and post-9-11 families appear to be "in" again. My wife and I are excited these days about becoming grandparents for the first time soon; one well-known local media fixture has just gone down that road.

Long-time KGO and KFSO radio talk host Jim Eason, who's now living in Asheville, N.C. (from whence he did his show for the last five years) has become a granddad for the first time. He told me, "You'll love it!" Jim, who has a few years on me, reports, "When I got the phone call, my heart pounded, tears of joy welled up, and I remember saying, 'Great! Great! Everybody's OK? Great!' Adds the normally composed Eason, "Everything is new again. Just wait, Bill, you'll see."

Jim's daughter, Lauren, was his producer at KFSO, and she had her baby girl at UCSF Medical Center, Isabel Juliet Santoro. The dulcet-voiced Eason (readers often ask about him) hasn't actually seen his first grandchild yet, he avers, but his wife was at the birth. "It will jumpstart your life, Bill," says the old hipster, again sounding characteristically emotional. We're looking forward to it.

Eason, by the way, keeps busy these days firing off as many e-mails to columnists about TV commercials he despises. I told Eason he shouldn't be so upset: After all, in North Carolina, he doesn't have to endure that insufferable, aging Mervyn's redhead every five minutes.

Liberating footage: Those memorable shots on the TV newscasts last week of the liberation of Kabul were both uplifting and inspirational, to put it mildly. In many ways, they underline what our war against terrorism is all about — the freedom to choose. If you still wanted a reason for our military actions, those shots should have provided it.

Up in smoke?: By the way, two excerpts from Time Magazine's coverage of the liberation of Afghan cities from Taliban rule:

■ "The Northern Alliance's guerrilla bands are plagued by ethnic infighting, inexperience, and customary drug use. The preferred narcotic is a potent hashish that is smoked by Alliance and Taliban soldiers alike from dinner to midnight." The article quotes an Alliance commander as saying his army is, uh, versatile. "We can do everything," says Fazel, "but we can't do anything very well." Watch for the first Domino's to open in Kabul soon.

■ And, Time adds, "jubilant residents greeted the liberators by sacrificing sheep in the street." Make that a medium lamb and pepperoni.

Something else about Mary: Last week we mentioned the resignation of the classy Mary Bitterman as KQED's general manager. Says KQED-FM "Forum" talk host Michael Krasny: "I will miss Mary. It was mutual admiration — she always calling me 'the dashing and erudite MK' and stuff like that. She is classy and brought KQED out of debt and raised millions. We'll miss her and she'll be damn hard to replace." Agreed.

New KRON newscast: When Channel 4 loses its Bay Area NBC affiliation on Jan. 1 to San Jose's KNTV-TV, Channel 4 will lose, besides "West Wing," "Frasier" et al. Kite, Matt and the "Today Show," the top-rated national morning show and a program that's often first here in the local ratings. KRON has announced it will start a new 7-9 a.m. local newscast — with a familiar anchor team. "The KRON 4 Morning News," will take "Today's" place on Jan. 1, and its anchors have worked together before — Susan Blake and Mark Mullen once teamed up on the original "Daybreak"

See MANN, Page C5



THE MARK MORRIS DANCE Group returns to Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley with "The Hard Nut."

The 'Nutcracker' marches on

Local productions find many ways to interpret and reinvent the evergreen Christmas classic

By Vera H-C Chan
STAFF WRITER

COME WINTER, dance performances become a gathering of families. The 19th-century tale of the "Nutcracker," by Prussian law officer and writer E.T.A. Hoffman, is as much a holiday standard as snowflakes and Santa Claus — even more so in the temperate Bay Area.

Here's what's on tap to get you into the holiday spirit:

■ "Nutcracker," Berkeley

PLANNING AHEAD

More holiday events on pages C4.

Ballet Theater, Dec. 7-9, 14-16, Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, \$16, 510-843-4687, www.berkeleyballet.org.

The Berkeley Ballet Theater's rendition has siblings Fritz and Clara as orphans, shivering outside the home of toymaker Herr Drosselmeyer. Shivering orphans aside, it's still a heartwarming version that weaves dreams and "real" happy endings.

■ "The Hard Nut: The Nutcracker With a Twist," Mark Morris Dance Group and Berkeley Symphony Orchestra members, Dec. 7-9, 13-16, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, Bancroft and Telegraph avenues, Berkeley, \$28/\$38/\$52, 510-642-9988, www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

Pity not the child who has been weaned on choreographer Mark Morris' enchanting lunatic version of the "Nutcracker." With all the makeovers the original story has had, throwing in a confusion of go-go boots, Barbie dolls and gender-swapping roles has simply made it a ballet of our times — and the roaring crowds who return every year attest to its touching, comic

endurance.

■ "Nutcracker," Oakland Ballet, Dec. 14-24, Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, \$8-\$45, 510-625-8497, www.oaklandballet.org.

The San Francisco Ballet may have its War Memorial Opera House, but Oakland holds up wonderfully well with the elegant art deco of the Paramount. With the score delivered by the Oakland East Bay Symphony, the company's staging stuffs local celebrities in its "All-Star Night."

Vera H-C Chan is the Times event editor. She can be reached at 925-977-8428 or at vchan@ctimes.com.



CONRAD CADY, left, hears the impassioned pleas of Gary Howes in the Masquers Playhouse production of "Inspecting Carol," the story of a small theater struggling to keep its NEA funding.

Productions, productions everywhere

If you like your theater news in short gulps, or to scramble the metaphor, wind sprints instead of marathon runs, take a seat in the stands. There's lots of ground to cover today.

First up in the starting blocks is "Uncle Vanya" by Anton Chekhov, translated by Jean-Claude van Itallie, directed by Diane Jackson, opening tonight at La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley.

Show times are 8 p.m. for the opener and tomorrow's special benefit for Forests Forever Foundation. There's also a single Sunday show on Nov. 25 at 7 p.m.

After this weekend, "Uncle Vanya" plays at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, closing Dec. 29. Tickets are \$14 general; \$8 for students. Call



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

510-234-6046.

That gets us out from under the starter's gun, but short takes are still the order of the day — both in form and brief runs.

ONE-ACTS AT CCCT: Contra Costa Civic Theatre's well-regarded PlayMakers Series opens its first-of-the-season run at 8 p.m. next Friday with "Mixed Doubles," a trio of one-act plays directed by Angela Mason.

Two of the shorts are by Robert Anderson; the other by

Noel Coward. All explore a common theme — the manifestations and mysteries of married life.

Anderson, probably best known for "I Never Sang for My Father," comes up with "I'm Herbert," and "The Footsteps of Doves."

"Herbert" portrays two elderly people sitting and talking, unaware of how funny they are. Both have previous marriages and a few flings behind them. The details are hazy, particularly since they don't always know who the other one is. Mmm-m-m.

"Doves" gives us a long-married couple picking out a new bed. Or, will it be beds? Double, or two twins? A gay salesman offers little help, nor does a recently divorced young woman looking for a BIG bed. Double Mmm-m-m.

Coward's "Ways and Means" presents the plight of an heiress and her gambling husband who find themselves broke while visiting a fabulous villa on the Cote d'Azur. A scandalous butler attempts to rob them and ends up saving their honor in a funny twist of fate.

"Mixed Doubles" plays for two weekends only with 8 p.m. performances on Nov. 30, and Dec. 1, 7 and 8, and 2 p.m. performances on Dec. 2 and 9.

Contra Costa Civic Theatre is at 951 Pomona Ave. (at Moeser Lane), El Cerrito. All tickets are \$8. Call 510-524-9132.

THEATER IN-JOKE: If you love community theater and might enjoy a play poking fun at it, here's a reminder that you can

EVENTS

Stage

Aurora Theatre Company —

"Saint Joan" by George Bernard Shaw, through Dec. 2. The Aurora Theatre Company unveils its new 150-seat theater with a production of Shaw's play, which chronicles the story of a brash and vibrant girl determined to drive the English out of France with only her faith to support her.

\$30 to \$35. Wednesday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley, (510) 843-4822 or www.auroratheatre.org.

Berkeley Repertory Theatre —

THRUST THEATRE — "Much Ado About Nothing," by William Shakespeare, through Jan. 8. Beatrice and Benedick, who would much rather quarrel, find themselves thrown together when they try to repair a broken relationship.

\$10 to \$54. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Nov. 24, Nov. 29, Dec. 1, Dec. 13, Dec. 22, Dec. 27, Dec. 29, and Jan. 5, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; NO PERFORMANCES DEC. 25, 2015 Addison St., Berkeley, (510) 847-2949, (888) 48RTTix or www.berkeleyrep.org.

Cal Performances —

"Dionysus," Tadashi Suzuki directing, Nov. 30 through Dec. 2. The Suzuki Company brings a staged interpretation of Euripides' Greek classic "The Bacchae" in its first Bay Area performance in 10 years. In Japanese with English subtitles.

\$30 to \$46. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. Zellerbach Playhouse, Bancroft Way at Dana Court, Berkeley, (510) 842-9988 or www.tickets.com.

Julia Morgan Center For The Arts

"Xingu" by Edith Wharton, Nov. 23 and Nov. 24, 8 p.m. Word for Word presents this wicked satire of small-town society matrons. \$20. 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, (510) 845-8542 or www.juliamorgan.org.

La Val's Subterranean Theatre —

"Blanco y Negro" by Virgilio Pinera, Dec. 2 through Dec. 17. A play that takes a look at the folly of black and white thinking in a modern political society. Directed by Gina Pulice; translated by Aaron Krasner. Presented in English and Spanish by the Shotgun Players.

\$10. Sunday and Monday, 8 p.m. 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, (510) 464-4468 or www.shotgunplayers.org.

The Masquers Playhouse —

"Inspecting Carol," through Dec. 22. In this hit play from Seattle, a man walks into a small Midwestern theatre and asks for an audition, but the crew suspects him of being an informer for the National Endowment for the Arts and cozies right up.

\$12. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Dec. 2, Dec. 9 and Dec. 16, 2 p.m. 105 Park Place, Richmond, (510) 232-4031 or www.masquers.org.

Mills College Theater —

"Goddesses" by Dorothea Reyna, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. A poetic drama that concerns one mortal woman's struggle to control the six goddesses in her psyche: Aphrodite, Persephone, Athena, Hera, Demeter and Hestia.

Dec. 1: Panel discussion after performance moderated by Jerri Lange. \$10. Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 7 p.m. Lissner Hall, 5900 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, (510) 883-0536.

Theatrefirst —

"Love and Understanding" by Joe Penhall, through Dec. 2. A comic drama about a hardworking London couple struggling to keep their relationship together when an old friend arrives and throws obstacles in their path.

\$15 to \$19 general; \$3 off seniors and students; half-price ages 25 and under. Thursday, 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. Oakland YMCA, 1515 Webster St., Oakland, (510) 436-5085.

Transparent Theater —

"Brave Brood" by Robert O'Hara, through Dec. 16. The story of a psychiatrist who takes in a group of prostitutes in hope of reclaiming their lives in the midst of a murder mystery.

\$20 general; pay-what-you-can Sunday, Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 7 p.m. 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, (510) 883-0305, www.virtuosos.com or www.transparenttheater.org.

Popular Music

Ashkenaz —

Ras Michael, Sons of Negus, Nov. 23, 9 p.m. \$10. Lavay Smith and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers, Nov. 24, 9:30 p.m. \$11. Mighty Sparrow and His Band, Nov. 25, 9 p.m. \$15.

Creole Belles, Nov. 27, 8 p.m. 48. Bluegrass Intentions, Stainwell Sisters, Nov. 28, 8 p.m. \$10. Steve Lucky and The Rhumba Burns, Ms. Carmen Getti, Nov. 30, 9 p.m. \$11.

Kotoja, W. African Highlife Band, Nigerian Bros., Kasumali Band, Dec. 1, 8 p.m. \$13. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, (510) 525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com.

See TUCKER, Page C5

See EVENTS, Page C5



THE YEAR IS 1991, and Robert Redford, left, plays the old school CIA operative with Brad Pitt as his one-time protégé in "Spy Game."

Top of their 'Game'

Robert Redford and Brad Pitt share the top billing in this post-Cold War spy yarn

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

You've got to figure movie audiences are always primed for a movie starring Robert Redford and Brad Pitt. But in the post-Sept. 11 world, will they embrace "Spy Game," a movie in which the top guys at the CIA are portrayed as arrogant, heartless and about as numb as a pounded thumb?

Three months ago, "Spy Game" would have been perceived as fairly standard fare for director Tony Scott ("Top Gun," "Crimson Tide," "Enemy of the State"). Good guys, bad guys, idealism on the line and a rebel within the system ready to save the day through pluck and daring. But "Spy Game's" basically simplistic message is more interesting when taken within the context of the nation's recent intelligence failure.

Redford plays Nathan Muir, a CIA agent who had his heyday during the Cold War. He cut a dashing, although no less craggy, figure through Vietnam, Berlin and Beirut in the 1970s and 1980s, all of which we see in flashback. But it's 1991 now, after the fall of the Berlin Wall, and Nathan hasn't been allowed out of the office in a few years. The day we meet him is scheduled to be his last with the agency, and he's shuffling through brochures from the Bahamas, planning his retirement in the sun.

Nathan is decidedly old

MOVIE REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Spy Game"
■ **STARRING:** Robert Redford, Brad Pitt, Catherine McCormack, Stephen Dillane
■ **RATING:** R (language, violence and brief sexuality)
■ **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 7 minutes
■ **WHERE:** Now playing at area theaters
■ **GRADE:** B

school, while everyone else at the agency seems to be new school. They're post-Cold War spies, high-tech junkies more concerned with free trade than important stuff like quelling communism. Just to make sure we know the difference, Nathan wears tweed jackets to the office, and all the other guys wear gray suits. The meanest of the new school guys is Charles Hacker (Stephen Dillane), who spends the whole movie scowling while he trails Nathan through the halls of the CIA's Langley, Va., headquarters (actually an office complex outside of London) trying to figure out what he's up to.

What Nathan is up to is a coolly efficient game of cat-and-mouse, in which he never wields a weapon more powerful than a fax machine or a cell phone. His mission is to save his estranged protégé, Tom Bishop (Brad Pitt), from certain death in a Chinese prison. Tom is or was a CIA agent, recruited by Nathan back when he was just a fresh young Vietnam volunteer with a talent for sharpshooting. In the film's

jarring, electronics-happy but undeniably tense opening sequence, also set in 1991, we see Tom captured by the Chinese during a daring attempt to rescue a female prisoner (we see nothing more than a dark eye peering out at us).

The agency wants to toss Tom to the wolves, because the president (Bush Senior) is just about to head off to China for some make-nice time, and this incident could spoil the trip. Nathan mutters something to his loyal secretary, Gladys ("Secrets and Lies") Marianne Jean-Baptiste, underused as usual) about microchips and toaster ovens being more important to them than people.

Redford doesn't do anything surprising with this role, but he's quite good at it and certainly believable. The big stars share top billing, but this is Redford's picture more than it is Pitt's. We never really get to know the younger man, although we certainly like what we see of the idealistic Tom (Pitt is at maximum eye candy levels in this role). Scott does a nice job of building the tension with the flashbacks. By the time we get to Beirut we've got a pretty good idea of what's coming, what will establish the rift between Nathan and his protégé (naturally, a woman, played by English beauty Catherine McCormack), but despite its predictability, the story plays out fairly well. The details are fuzzy in places — if my interpretation is right, Nathan owes Tom a major favor — but the performances elevate this into a game worth watching.



RECENTLY DIVORCED MARIA (Rosario Dawson) is trying to get back into the dating scene by spending some quality time with Tommy (Ed Burns) in "Sideways of New York."

Witty 'Sideways' a tribute to N.Y.

By Mary F. Pols
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Writer/director Ed Burns' gregarious romantic comedy "Sideways of New York" is like a Woody Allen movie without hard feelings. People fall in and out of love, wittily, but no one really gets hurt, and the whole thing plays out like a very pleasant coed slumber party for adults.

Burns plays Tommy, a 32-year-old Queens native who once aspired to be a novelist but is now a well-paid producer on an "Entertainment Tonight" kind of show. Tossed out of his apartment by his girlfriend, who doesn't want to provide the five kids he wants, Tommy starts looking for his own place with the help of a pretty real estate agent named

MOVIE REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Sideways of New York"
■ **STARRING:** Ed Burns, Rosario Dawson, Dennis Farina, Heather Graham, David Krumholtz, Brittany Murphy, Stanley Tucci
■ **RATING:** R (sexual content and language)
■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 40 minutes
■ **WHERE:** Now playing at the Shattuck, Berkeley, and the Embarcadero, S.F.
■ **GRADE:** B

Annie (Heather Graham), whom he's obviously attracted to. Un-

known to the morally upright Annie, her 39-year-old dentist husband, Griffin (Stanley Tucci), is cheating on her with a wide-eyed 19-year-old waitress named Ashley (Brittany Murphy).

Griffin is fond of Ashley, but refuses to commit to anything more than lunchtime hotel romps with her. Being divorced once is bad enough, but a second divorce would mark him as a loser, he explains. So the frustrated Ashley sets out to make Griffin jealous by dating Ben (David Krumholtz), a young doorman with a major crush on her. Meanwhile, Ben is divorced from Maria (Rosario Dawson). To complete the impossibly con-

See SIDEWALKS, Page C3



VOICES SOAR in performances such as the cappella ensemble Chanticleer, above and the ensemble Les Arts Florissants, below.

Music can lift spirits in hard times

By Georgia Rowe
CORRESPONDENT

WE ALL KNOW the holidays can be the most stressful time of the year, and this year has already had more than its share of difficult days. But the idea that music can offer comfort isn't just a cliché. As 2001 winds to a close, a live performance may be the perfect balm for our weary souls.

This year's holiday lineup is an eclectic blend of old and new. In the coming weeks, Bay Area music lovers will have the chance to hear everything from Baroque treasures to contemporary carols — with a wealth of opera, chamber music, recitals and choral and orchestral concerts in between. Highlights include a new production of Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a special appearance by France's Baroque specialists Les Arts Florissants; Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra's performance of Bach's B Minor Mass and return engagements of holiday programs by Chanticleer and the San Francisco Girls Chorus. Read on for the season's best bets:

■ **Les Arts Florissants**, Nov. 29, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berke-



ley campus, \$24-\$46, 510-642-9988.

Under the direction of William Christie, Les Arts Florissants are among the world's most respected Baroque ensembles. Cal Performances brings Christie and company to the UC Berkeley campus for this special concert of Christmas music by Charpentier, including the composer's Midnight Mass for Christmas Eve, as well as other works featured on Les Arts Florissants' latest CD, "Noels." (Note: This program replaces the previously announced "Acteon," also by Charpentier.)

■ **Bach's Mass in B Minor**, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Dec. 1-2, First Congregational Church, Berkeley, repeats Dec. 5, Regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek, and Dec. 7, Herbst Theatre, S.F., \$34-\$49, 415-392-4400 (925-943-SHOW

for Walnut Creek).

Acclaimed English tenor Andrew Parrott returns to the Bay Area's top ensemble in his own Bach's B Minor Mass, a composer cobbled to 1748 from bits and other works he'd written the previous quarter. Performances will feature soloists including soprano Barbara Borden and mezzo-soprano Jennifer Mark Molomou, tenor Mark Molomou, Curtis Streetman

■ **"A Chanticleer Christmas"**, Dec. 14, First Congregational Church, Berkeley, Dec. 18, 22, St. Ignace Church, \$22-\$34, 800-407-1400.

San Francisco's own cappella ensemble returns. See MUSIC, Page C3

START

8:30 AM for both 5K Run/Walk & 10K Run near the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park Post-race party with live music and refreshments.

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SIGNATURE

ALL ENTRANTS MUST READ & SIGN WAIVER. (If entrant is under 18 - Parent or Guardian must sign waiver.)

Date



THE EVIL PERCIVAL (Vincent Regan) makes his point with Jamal (Martin Lawrence) in the painfully funny comedy "Black Knight."

A 'Black Knight' to forget about

By Vera H-C Chan
STAFF WRITER

IF YOU LIKE Martin Lawrence's shtick, then go. Otherwise, stand in line for Harry Potter.

Whether "Black Knight," the medieval flashback comedy, is better or worse than Lawrence's last film, the mercilessly misbegotten comedy "What's the Worst That Could Happen?" depends on your tolerance for failure — not the jokes, not the over-the-top characters, but an impressively realistic, widescreen, over-the-top close-up, Mr. DeMille's grandeur of manure.

Ah, but less on that later. Lawrence tones it down as Jamal Skywalker, a Los Angeles theme park worker who encourages people in the pursuit of selfishness (a moral intervention alert). While standing on the "moat" at Medieval Fun Center, he spies a shining medallion, which sucks him into the polluted waters, and spits him back up in the year 1328.

Understandably, young Skywalker thinks he has just resurfaced in the new competition from the street, Castle World. He recognizes the head of security (Vincent Regan) and plays along with his mistaken identity as a Normandy messenger bearing

MOVIE REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Black Knight"
- **STARRING:** Martin Lawrence, Marsha Thomason, Vincent Regan, Kevin Conway
- **RATING:** PG-13 (language, brief sexuality and scatological humor)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 35 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** C-

news for King Leo (Kevin Conway), until he learns from chambermaid Victoria (Marsha Thomason) that he has truly gone medieval.

The fatal flaw of "Black Knight" is that it can't stay the kind of family fable it purports to be. A digestible family flick has broad-stroke characters who can carry at most two personal traits — here we have the evil king, the repressed feminist servant (Knolte, played by Tom Wilkinson), who must overcome his shame-induced alcoholism to help restore the overthrown queen to her glory. Bits of his-

torical authenticity get tossed in, like Middle Ages-style dinner manners; and once in a while there's a merry-making such as the song-and-dance number choreographed by Paula Abdul. The moments are all too rare, but nevertheless they are present.

Once director Gil Junger throws in horny princesses, beheadings, revolution, 21st-century cussing and humiliation by manure, willingly low expectations are dragged down even further. If the powers-that-be had spent as much time on the script as they did on crafting the fake dung ... ooops, sorry, messing with a Hollywood formula.

For a "Connecticut Yankee" scenario, "Black Knight" focuses not a whit on culture clashes (evidently no 21st-century, South Central L.A.-to-feudal English translation needed) and concentrates more on Skywalker trying to maintain the scam as messenger and part-time court jester. Lawrence does manage to convey some charm, but as the fish out of water, he can only flop around so much.

Vera H-C Chan is the Times event editor. She can be reached at 925-977-8428 or at vchan@ctimes.com.

Events

FROM PAGE C3

Steve's On Telegraph — Salome, Nov. 23. Rock ska pop. \$5. **Dark Man Shank**, Locale A.M., Nov. 24. Ska rock, rock hip-hop. \$5. **Out of the Ashes**, Wonderland Ave., Nov. 25. All pop. \$3. **Nirvan Jam** featuring The Steve Gibson Band and Mz. Dee, Nov. 25. All genres. **Cl. Muroz and The Amen Corner**, Pogo, Nov. 27. R&B spoken word, and jazz, pop alternative. \$3. **Eric City**, DJ Maestro, Nov. 28. Funk, soul and disco. \$2. **Rebo**, Nov. 28. Acoustic ska. In the **tribar**. Free. **Barbours with Ascension**, Nov. 29. Single and hard NRG. \$5. **Rebo**, Nov. 30. Hip-hop. \$6. **Rebo**, Nov. 19 and up. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2387 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-0886. **Cl. Ecologica** — BeastFest. **Rebo**, Nov. 19 and up. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2387 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-0886. **Cl. Ecologica** — BeastFest. **Rebo**, Nov. 19 and up. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2387 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-0886. **Cl. Ecologica** — BeastFest. **Rebo**, Nov. 19 and up. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2387 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-0886.

Sidewalks

FROM PAGE C4

ected circle, Maria is cautiously testing the dating waters with Tommy, whom she met in a photo store.

The movie does nothing more than follow these characters around as they stumble through their new and old relationships, a gentle and amiable premise. It's only partly in a documentary style, with brief interludes where the characters address the camera directly, answering questions about sex and love for an unseen (though not silent) filmmaker, starting with that age-old conversation starter, "When did you lose your virginity?"

We're never told what the point of all this is or why someone might be making a documentary about these six characters. On the face of it, you could easily dismiss this as a contrived storytelling mechanism or an attempt to lend undue weight to a member of a film. But Burns has a breezy, unassuming method as a director that the documentary style is far more palatable than you'd expect. You can almost hear him saying, in that New York wheeze of his, "Yeah, so I took the easy route, but it kinda works anyway, doesn't it?" And the answer

would have to be, yeah, it kind of does, despite itself.

It helps that this batch of characters is so likable. Even Griffin is appealing in his own cheerfully repugnant way (thanks to Tucci, who always plays a supreme cad). Burns gets fine performances out of all his principals, particularly the lovely Dawson, who comes across as a warmer Angelina Jolie, and Murphy ("Don't Say a Word," "Riding in Cars With Boys"), who is rapidly emerging as one of the most interesting young actresses out there. As she squirms a little uncomfortably under Ben's too blatant admiration, Murphy lets you see that Ashley is pleased by and yet somewhat dismissive of it. Even though Burns is typically thought of a dude's-dude kind of writer, he's equally good with both sexes.

In his first two movies, "Brothers McMullen" and "She's the One," when Burns was working with untitled actors, his dialogue often sounded aggressively staid and a little hollow. But the actors in "Sidewalks" are a smooth bunch, and Burns' words roll naturally off their tongues. His characters are also much less fouthmouthed than they used to be (only Tommy swears like a sailor).

You can't watch "Sidewalks of New York" without feeling a

swell of nostalgia for Woody Allen's earlier, more innocent films, like "Manhattan" or "Annie Hall." Burns shamelessly imitates Allen, from his dialogue to the way his characters bump into one another in their regular Manhattan haunts, like bookshops or video stores. He tend to start up awkward, intense conversations that end with both parties fleeing in opposite directions, without having said what they needed or wanted to say. And when they do make headway with each other, it's more often a result of what's said between the lines than anything direct.

Originally intended for a late September release, "Sidewalks" was delayed because studio executives felt, correctly, that its lighthearted look at the love connections between six New Yorkers would be inappropriate so soon after Sept. 11. There are moments in it that are unsettling — we see the twin towers, intact and shining against a sunset, within the film's first minute; and we spot Ben wearing a Rock-away T-shirt and catch our breath at the thought of that more recent calamity. But "Sidewalks" is also a heartening experience. Burns knows New York, and by reminding us so emphatically of what was, he reinforces our belief that the place and its people will bounce back.

Music

FROM PAGE C4

a new holiday program spanning medieval and Renaissance music, spirituals and traditional holiday carols. Also included are "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem," "Huron Carol" and other selections from the group's new CD, "Christmas With Chanticleer."

■ **"Voices in Peace,"** Voci, 4 p.m. Dec. 8, University Christian Church, Berkeley, \$10-\$20 suggested donation, 510-547-6997.

Led by Jude Navari, the women's choral ensemble performs a varied program of works by Palestrina, Mendelssohn, Imogen Holst and others, along with Hebrew peace chants, seasonal works and a new piece by Oakland resident Nina Egert. The concert is a benefit for the Global Fund for Women, and a reception is included.

■ **"A Musical Celebration for Christmas,"** San Francisco Chamber Singers and Ancora, the advanced choir from the Piedmont Children's Choir, Dec. 8, St. Mary's College, Moraga.

\$10-\$20 suggested donation, 925-631-4670.

Robert Geary directs both the San Francisco Chamber Singers and the multilevel Piedmont Children's Choir, and he'll combine the best of both ensembles for this concert, performed in the beautiful St. Mary's College Chapel. The program includes classical works and traditional holiday fare; Geary and his singers will be joined by George Emblom, who will accompany the choirs on the chapel's recently restored Austin pipe organ.

Mann

FROM PAGE C3

at 5:30 a.m. Channel 4's new morning news show gives the Bay Area two local morning telecasts to choose from at 7 a.m. — "KRON 4 Morning News" will compete head-on against KTVU's successful "Mornings on 2," a show that occasionally beats "Today" in the local Nielsen ratings.

Blake is also well-known for co-anchoring the now-defunct Bay-TV's morning show. Mullen left KRON in 1995 to anchor ABC's overnight newscast. In 1999, he moved to Seattle to work as a TV news anchor at KING-TV, where he'll toil another two weeks. The easygoing Mullen was the original co-anchor (with Blake) when KRON started its 5:30 a.m. (now 5 a.m.) "Daybreak" newscast in 1994.

MEDIA NOTES: It makes perfect sense for Raider voice Greg Papa to also have his own show on the team's flagship station KTCT. "The Ticket" (1050 AM). (More sense than simulcasting shows, as KTCT's been doing, with sagging corporate sister station KNBR). And in its promos, "The Ticket" loves to milk Papa's trademark call, "Touchdownnnnn... Rrrraiders." The other day on Papa's midday show, one Raider fan mentioned that he watched the Oakland games on CBS (those that aren't blacked out, that is) with the sound turned down using Papa's play-by-play on KTCT. As do I. The caller mentioned the same oddity I've noticed: If you do this, the radio broadcast runs a half-second or so ahead of the TV pictures because of technical (satellite-transmission) reasons.

It's weird hearing that Rich Gannon's passing before the ball leaves his hand. (At first, I thought Papa was psychic.) The classy Papa is also funny. He likes to call Raider defensive back Marquez Pope (for obvious reasons) "the pounding pontiff."

Prediction for Sunday's game: Raiders 24, Giants 10. Each week, more and more, I smell a Super Bowl for Jon Gruden and company. When these guys are on their game, they're unbeatable.

Net stuff: I hadn't realized that those ubiquitous ads for the wireless X-10 camera — the pop-ups (and pop-unders) that are unavoidable on the web — are emphasizing the voyeuristic potential of the devices until I read a piece in the Wall Street Journal in which some women's groups says the devices are spy cameras being planted in ladies' locker rooms, in bedrooms, etc. I just thought of them as annoying ads. Until now.

Speaking of women, you don't have to see current events through a feminist prism to appreciate the civilizing influence of females in a country or culture. Watching all the TV coverage from the largely patriarchal Middle East these days, it's not hard to draw the conclusion that countries (like Afghanistan) in which women are shut out of power tend to be run by warlords, brutal strongmen, or the military.

Anyone else find that smug-sounding KGO Radio promo for Dr. Dean Edell's show that goes, "Tune in, turn on, drop trou" to be both juvenile and annoying? That said though, The most annoying and juvenile local radio promos, hands down, are those TV ads run-

ning for the slumping "Alice" '97.3 that feature the S.F. rock station's spectacularly untalented morning team of Sarah and Vinnie. You know — the ones who prominently feature the word "horny."

Want to see a fine movie this weekend? Catch the delightful "Amelie." Hard to believe it's done by the same director who did the bizarre "Delicatessen." It's the highest-grossing film ever in France.

One thing you can't help but avoid in those "warm and cuddly" institutional ads Channel 5 is running promoting the station's illustrious past: There's no mention of the vulgar, just-yanked "The Fifth Wheel." Wonder why. One thing Channel 5 should have included: Its long-running live local show, "People Are Talking" with Ann Fraser and Ross McGowan. Fraser's as happy as a clam these days, living up by the Russian River in semi-retirement. "I got out of the TV business when it was still fun," said Ann the other day at lunch. She left the faltering, tight-fisted CBS-owned station three years ago. These days, Fraser's a tireless fundraiser who recently put together a promotional tape for the nonprofit Hanna Boys' Home up in Sonoma. It was so moving that one contributor saw it and immediately whipped out his checkbook — to the tune of six figures. (The home gets no federal money). I've seen Fraser's professionally done tape — she shot 16 hours of interviews with Hanna alumni and it took six days to edit in Sacramento. And nowhere does her name or voice appear on it. That's class.

(Questions? Comments? e-mail Bill at Newsman@sonic.net)

Tucker

FROM PAGE C3

catch "Inspecting Carol" — all about the goings-on at a small theater company rehearsing "A Christmas Carol" — at the Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park Place, Point Richmond, playing weekends through Dec. 22. Tickets are \$12. Call 510-232-4031.

'GODDESSES' RETURNS: If you missed "Goddesses," a play by Dorothea Reyna, when it played to sold-out houses at Live Oak Theatre in August and September, here's an even shorter dash to catch two performances at 8 p.m. on Nov. 30 and 7 p.m. on Dec. 1 at Lissner Hall, Mills College, 5900 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. A brief hint of the premise: "Contrary to popular belief, the Greek goddesses are alive and well in Western women's psyches."

Ray Couture of Haute Couture Productions is producing with direction by Reyna and Sasha Litovchenko.

Saturday's performance will be followed by a panel discussion. Participants will include Mara Lynn Keller, director of Women's Spirituality Program of the California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS), Tanya Wilkinson, professor of psychology at CIIS, Jennifer Stone, Mills College alumna, author and KPFA commentator, and Reyna. Oakland broadcaster Jerri Lange will be the moderator.

General admission is \$10; Mills students and faculty, \$5-\$10, sliding scale. ID required. Call 510-883-0536.

'BLANCO Y NEGRO': Another of Shotgun Players' Black Box Productions — "Blanco y Negro" — goes up at 8 p.m. Dec. 2 at La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, and continues at the

same time Sundays and Mondays through Dec. 17.

Written by Virgilio Piñera, translated and adapted by Aaron Krasner, "Blanco y Negro" presents a single debate in three separate contexts, highlighting striking similarities in three seemingly dissimilar moments in history.

The first act is set in 1950s Cuba at the time of the Cuban revolution. The second act moves to Miami in 1999 in the midst of the custody controversy over Elian Gonzalez. In the final act, the ensemble infuses the debate with current events in the United States and Afghanistan.

Directing this ultra contemporary piece is Shotgun Artistic Associate Gina Pulice who pioneered the Black Box series last year with her original play, "7th Veil," depicting the story

of Salome from Salome's point of view.

By changing certain linguistic and contextual variables, Pulice leads a provocative journey through our thoughts and feelings about the three major issues involved.

"Blanco y Negro" will be presented bilingually in both English and Spanish, but can be understood by those who speak only one or the other language, so say the folks at Shotgun.

Admission is \$10. For reservations or more information, call the new Shotgun hotline at 510-704-8210.

Send items of interest to Jack Tucker at 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806; fax to 510-262-2776; e-mail to jtucker@cc-times.com, or call 510-262-2768. Include a contact name and number.

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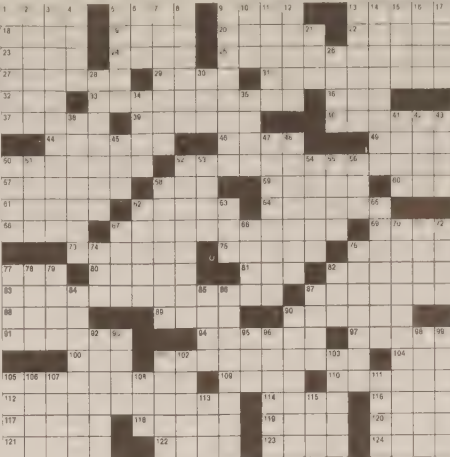
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NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

HIDDEN SOURCE OF MONEY

By Jim Page / Edited by Will Shortz

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

Teen Support Group meets twice a month Tuesday evenings at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave. The free support group is for teens who have a parent or caregiver with cancer. The meeting is co-facilitated by a teen whose mother had breast cancer. For more information, call PediatricCare at 531-7551.

Check out books from the Berkeley Rich-

mond Jewish Community Center Library. Spend quality time with your kids, meet with the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is located at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For more information, call 848-0237.

Hall of Health, 2230 Shattuck Ave., a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free puppet shows, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 549-9682.

The City of El Cerrito, offers special programs for children from 22 months to five years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through

Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. For more information, call Judie, 215-4371.

LGBTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

Community

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chapter CA 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization assisting men and women in weight control. For more information call Betty Coates at 235-0490. This chapter has moved from Richmond.

Dog and puppy temporary foster homes urgently needed. Shelters overcrowded, situation desperate. Call Hopalong Animal Rescue today, 530-5154.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley, serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is

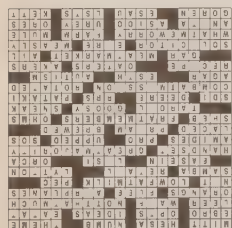
open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends, Nov. 24 and 25, Dec. 1 and 2, 8 and 9, 15 and 16. A free map is available listing all participants. Over one hundred professional artists and craftspeople open their doors to the public. Artwork includes blown glass, functional and decorative ceramics, ornaments, menorahs, clocks, lamps and lighting, furniture, garden art, bird houses, egg dioramas, floor cloths, clothing, textiles, many styles of jewelry, sculpture, photography, paintings, original prints, and more. All artwork is hand-crafted, and many pieces are one-of-a-kind. This free self-guided tour offers opportunities to meet the artists, and to see inside working studios. For more information, call Susan Brooks at 845-2612.

Kala Art Institute, 1060 Heinz Ave., features the works of artists Bridget Henry, David Kelson, and Margaret van Patten through Nov. 30. The artists are the win-

See CALENDAR, Page C10



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 23, 2001

Public Advertisement

Events Lineup - Save the Date

Luncheon
November 29 - 12:00 PM
"A Mayoral Vision"
Radisson Hotel
200 Marina Boulevard
Sunrise Mixer

December 6 - 8:30 AM
Costco Wholesale
4801 Central Avenue

Luncheon & Table Top
Tradeshaw
January 15 - 12:00 PM
"Marketing After the Holidays"
Singers, 1919 Fourth Street

Luncheon
January 29 - 12:00 PM
State Assembly Candidates
Forum
Radisson Hotel
200 Marina Boulevard

Crab Feed
February 7 - 6:00 PM
Berkeley Yacht Club
1 Seawall Drive

Berkeley City Council Takes the Wrong Action at the Wrong Time

The resolution on the war on terrorism passed by the Berkeley City Council has reverberated through the Easy Bay and the nation. The Chamber has received over a thousand e-mails and phone calls from throughout the nation condemning the action of the council. Locally, hundreds of East Bay citizens have also written to express their opposition to the resolution, and to state that they will no longer frequent Berkeley business. The unfortunate impact of this action will be felt on businesses of all size in Berkeley, and may result in increasing unemployment and economic uncertainty during an already difficult time.

The Berkeley Chamber recognizes and respects that people have differing points of view about how our war against terrorism should be waged. We believe that it is the job of the Berkeley City Council to focus their efforts and energies on the numerous challenges facing our city for which they have specific responsibility. Their attempt to help guide our nation's foreign policy, however well intended, is having a negative impact on their city.

In conclusion, I believe that the resolution passed on October 16 was the wrong thing to do at the wrong time. I urge any local businessperson

that has been specifically impacted by the resolution to inform their council members of the details so that they fully understand the impact of their action. The Berkeley Chamber of Commerce will continue to advocate for the economic health and vitality of our city, its residents and its employees.



Reid Edwards
Chairman of the Board

Welcome New Members

State Farm - is a multi-line insurance and financial services company. We offer auto, home, business, life, long term care and health insurance as well as mutual funds. We will be launching the State Farm Bank in California within the next few months. We offer flexible hours for your convenience. My team and I are at your disposal to help solve any insurance needs you may have or for a comprehensive review of your current program. Our promise is to make your visit fast, friendly and just stop by our office at 2809 Telegraph Avenue or give George S. Call a call at 510-843-8300 (fax 510-849-8665).

Design Act One - is a full-service marketing company. We can fulfill any marketing and programming needs your business has, from designing logos, print media, and web sites to project management and consultation. Our professional staff includes experienced marketing professionals, computer specialists and designers committed to marketing your business products and services. Visit Michael & Kay Lavin at 1563 Solano Avenue #545 or give them a call at 510-526-6789 (fax 510-559-8698).

Verizon Wireless - The nation's largest wireless provider has opened a new retail store in Berkeley. The company has more than 28 million wireless voice and data customers. The coast-to-coast wireless provider was formed by the combination of the U.S. wireless businesses of Verizon Communications (NYSE: VZ) and Vodafone (NYSE and LSE: VOD), including Bell Atlantic Mobile, AirTouch Cellular, GTE Wireless and Prime Co Personal Communications. Verizon Wireless has a footprint covering more than 90 percent of the U.S. population, 49 of the top 50 and 97 of the top 100 U.S. markets. The company, headquartered in Bedminster, NJ, is 40,000 employees strong. You can reach Glen Underwood and the Verizon office is located at 1909 University Avenue, telephone 510-540-7613 (fax 510-540-6898).

United States Air Force Recruitment Office - Assisting America's youths in learning about the spectrum of opportunities available with the United States Air Force and providing the world's greatest air and space force with the highest quality of people necessary to carry out the Air Force mission. To learn more or receive additional information, contact Tsgt Kevin R. Suite A, Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc. Designs and manufactures high quality sound reinforcement systems, speakers, studio monitors, mixers and sound measurement equipment for the professional audio industry. Founded in 1979 by John and Helen Meyer, the company has grown to become a leading worldwide supplier of systems for theaters, arenas, stadiums, theme parks, convention centers and touring concert sound rental companies. Meyer Sound's main office and manufacturing facility is located in Berkeley, California, with field offices and authorized distributors located throughout the USA and around the world. More information is available at Tel: 510-486-1166, (fax 510-486-3360) e-mail

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The Linde Group - At The Linde Group, we bring people and technology together to help businesses operate more profitably with less effort. We take the fear and mystery out of technology. As technology consultants, we maintain Macintosh and PC business computers, administer servers, design and maintain networks, create and implement Strategic Technology Plans, establish Disaster Recovery Plans, and provide training. In short, we manage our client's technology so that they can focus on their core business and achieve their goals. Through our technical expertise and genuine caring, we deliver unmatched value. For additional information contact Peter Linde at 510-705-8910 (fax 510-705-8911) or visit their office at 2612 8th Street, Suite B in Berkeley.

Publishers Group Incorporated - Our business is a holding company of two wholly owned subsidiaries Publishes Group West, the largest marketing, sales and book distribution company in the U.S. and Avalon Publishing Group. The Publishing arm which is comprised of two divisions, a book publishing company and a travel reference publishing company. The company is located at 1700 Fourth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710. For additional information, contact Kimberly Miller, Director of corporate Operations at 510-528-1444, X299.

Philip Henry Architecture - was founded in 1991. With a background of over 20 years experience in the design and management of computer projects Mr. Henry's goal was to get back to basics, to personalize the practice of architecture to provide hands on involvement and to gain personal enjoyment from satisfied clients and well executed projects.

Each project is a unique design opportunity. Successful design is many things - it solves a problem, is functional and environmentally appropriate. The firm focuses on meeting budget and schedules. Emphasis is placed on "design as a collaborative effort between the client and the architect."

Philip Henry Architecture has successfully provided architectural services in both the public and private sectors. Projects include corporate headquarters, animal facilities, an auditorium day care center, and cafeteria. These projects range from tenant improvements to new construction. Current projects include laboratories, custom residences, retail offices, and correctional facilities. The office is located at 701 University Avenue, telephone 510-548-7915 (fax 510-548-7911).

East Bay Business Times - Published weekly, over 60,000 executives in Contra Costa, Alameda and Solano Counties read The East Bay Business Times.

Our mission is to break the news, profile the players, and identify the trends. In addition to award winning weekly news coverage, special industry reports and supplements are produced throughout the year. These cover

health care biotechnology, real estate, employment and more. Many of our special publications are released in conjunction with our special events - which offer a unique marketing opportunity to local companies.

The East Bay Business Times also produces the annual Book of Lists that provides facts, figures and contact information on the East Bay's most successful businesses. The office is located at 6160 Stoneridge Mall Road in Pleasanton, telephone 925-598-1402 (fax 925-598-1840) • eastbay.bcentral.com.

BodyEase - is business that offers massage therapy, structural bodywork, movement education, fitness training, ergonomic consulting and yoga through a system call Aston-Patterning. This multi-faceted focus helps to relieve pain and stress and provides the education to make lasting changes.

Body Ease works with individuals and with companies to help reduce on-the-job injuries and promote health and well being. You may contact Sonia Foscoli at 510-486-1966 or www.bodyease.com. Office is located at 2310 Sixth Street in Berkeley.

Payroll Masters Marketing, Inc. - The most complete payroll processing available with unparalleled personal service and paychecks, envelopes, electronic tax handling, and direct deposit and information on free employer checking. Isn't time you had a payroll service that makes things easier for you and your business? The office is located at 1078 Carol Lane in Lafayette. You can telephone the office at 925-299-8975 (fax 925-299-8924).

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Statement of Editorial Policy

It is the policy of the Berkeley Business Advocate to present in a fair and objective manner information of interest to the business community in general, and to the membership of the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce specifically.

Editorial opinions published are signed and reflect the opinions of the author and are not necessarily those of the Board of directors or the members of the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce. Those of differing opinions are encouraged to offer those opinions in a Letter to the Editor. Letters must be signed to be considered for publication. Names may be withheld at the request of the writer.

Chamber Submits General Plan Final Draft Recommendations to City Council

The following items in the proposed General Plan should be modified consistent with the comments below.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Policy LU-24 Car Free Housing in the Downtown

Encourage development of transit oriented, low cost housing in the downtown.

Actions:

- Consider reducing or eliminating the on-site parking requirements for new downtown housing units
- Designate the City's Oxford parking lot as the site for a pilot mixed-use development that would waive the Downtown Plan parking requirements for housing on the site
- If parking requirements are reduced, require developers to facilitate the mobility of residents through means such as providing residents with free or discounted transit passes; providing access to car sharing and providing bicycle storage facilities
- If parking requirements are reduced, require lease provisions that prohibit car ownership; and prohibit residents from buying RPP permits
- Study the relationship between car-free housing and quantitative reduction in automobile use by residents, and study the effectiveness of various restrictions on car ownership by residents of car-free housing

Comments

These five action items should only be considered in conjunction with, and subsequent to, the parking and facilities needs study (T-35)

TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

T-35 Public Parking Supply in the Downtown and Southside

- After TDM programs have been in place for two years, if monitoring efforts suggest the existence of parking supply problems, consider coordinating a parking study and developing a parking facilities plan with broad public participation to address those problems

Comments

Parking study and a parking facilities plan should be commenced immediately

HOUSING ELEMENT

Policy H-4 Rent Control

- Support repeal of the vacancy decontrols of the 1995 Costa-Hawkins Bill or pursue other means to provide city autonomy to stabilize rents through vacancy controls

Comments

This item should be deleted

Policy H-18 City Owned Sites

- Require development on the City-owned Oxford Street parking lot downtown and the Ashby BART air rights (west of Adeline Street) to do residential mixed use developments. If feasible, 50 percent or more of the housing units on these sites should be affordable for households with low or very low incomes

Comments

The amount of affordable housing on these two sites should be a function of the housing trust fund financing. The amount of affordable housing should be "considered," and not "required."

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

Policy ED-2 West Berkeley Industry

Continue to implement the West Berkeley Plan, with its central emphasis on protecting and strengthening the City's manufacturing sector

- Continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the West Berkeley Plan

Comments

We should continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the West Berkeley Plan, and not initiate single-issue modifications as is currently occurring. There is something wrong with current "implementation" process that allows piecemeal modifications. Modifications need to be considered in a holistic manner by all the stakeholders

Policy ED-3 Local Business

- Develop and implement planning and zoning mechanisms that promote community-serving commercial diversity and that limit development of additional chain stores, formula businesses and big-box developments

Comments

A good commercial mix includes commercial diversity that includes chain stores, formula businesses and big-box developments. These component parts of a well-balance economy should not be inappropriately limited

Policy ED-4 Neighborhood Commercial Districts

- Maintain a diverse mix of commercial goods and services in the shopping districts. Use needs assessments to determine what basic goods and services are lacking, and establish criteria of appropriateness for neighborhood businesses that address the following issues:

- Availability of basic goods and services that are affordable to local residents
- Local ownership
- Employment for local residents at living wages
- Environmental impact on adjacent neighborhoods and businesses, for example, traffic, noise, air pollution.
- Impact on the viability of other business districts and quality of life in other neighborhoods in the city.

Comments

It is inappropriate to "establish criteria of appropriateness for neighborhood businesses." Quotas or any other type of regulation of the types of businesses that come into a commercial district would be inappropriate.

It is especially inappropriate to attempt to control:

- #2, local ownership;
- #3, implementation of a "living wage;" and
- #5, impact of other businesses.

URBAN DESIGN AND PRESERVATION ELEMENT

Policy UD-1 Techniques

- Develop a comprehensive program that will indicate, in more detail, needed in-depth surveys and other actions to protect Berkeley's built environment and cultural heritage.

Comments

Survey should be done and "put on the shelf" conclusively and should not be open-ended, subject to frequent and never-ending additions.

Policy UD-2 Regulation of Significant Properties

Increase the extent of regulatory protection.

Comments

It is appropriate to exercise the current regulatory protection and not to increase it.

Policy UD-3 Regulation of Neighborhood Character

- Consider the creation of a new regulatory classification of "conservation district" to protect areas with distinctive architectural or environmental characteristics.

Comments

It is inappropriate to add additional districts. More districts create the need for more guidelines, criteria and standards, which delays the approval process. Increases cost and confusion.

Policy UD-4 Inventory

- Actively expand the inventory of historic and cultural resources, with particular attention to areas where development pressure is expected, and make the inventory results prominently available to citizens and potential developers.

Comments

It is appropriate to conduct the inventory, but, thereafter, not expand it. The inventory should be achieved, capped and, thereafter, additions limited.

IMPLEMENTATION

The General Plan includes an ambitious list of actions and programs. Given the large number of policies and actions and the limited resources that are available to the City annually, it is not possible to fund every action and program in the plan at once.

Comments

It is essential that this section include a requirement of "economic feasibility" of implementing plans. The Environmental Impact Report, for example, analyzes CEQA-defined elements, but, significantly, does not address "economic feasibility." This element of analysis needs to be included on a goforward basis.

All New Chamber Marketing Guide

The new directory is going to be one dynamite marketing piece for your business. The publication will be distributed to people relocating to Berkeley and the East Bay, to businesses who are considering Berkeley as a new location, and to the general public that visits our office. The Chamber is also going to distribute the directory to a select number of zip codes within the Berkeley community. We firmly believe that people would rather select a business through a book published locally; it is known as the human comfort factor.

Don't miss this opportunity to market your business to a wide range of individuals and businesses. Contact Mark, the Chamber's sales representative, today at 549-7101 to set up an appointment. He will review sample publications with you and discuss your ad possibilities. The Chamber looks forward to membership support of this very special publication. Ten minutes of your time, that's all it will take. In that amount of time you will see the advantages of being a significant part of this Chamber directory and community guide

870 Legal Notices

[illegible]

Legal The Journal #0719
Publish November 16
1-764-654-3100

NOVEMBER 15 F.L.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
By J ODESAAR
Dep. 147
FILE NO 2007-147
FICTITIOUS BUS. N
NAME STATEMENT
The business of Jennifer Volas-
sano is located at 6872
Cutting Blvd in El Cerrito,
CA 94530
This business is hereby
registered with the County
of Contra Costa
Jennifer Volas-
sano
6872 Cutting Blvd
El Cerrito, CA 94530
Jennifer Volas-
sano
6872 Cutting Blvd
El Cerrito, CA 94530
This business is conducted
by husband and wife
Jennifer Volas-
sano
This business is reg-
istered with the County Clerk of
Contra Costa on date indi-
cated by file stamp above
Business commenced on
November 13, 2007
Expires November 13,
2006
Legal The Journal #0721

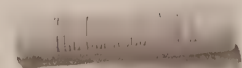
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Sunday 12-5



Calendar

FROM PAGE C6

ners of The 2001 James D. Phelan Art Awards in Printmaking. Staff from the San Francisco Foundation will present the awards at 7 p.m. Kala Gallery hours: noon to 5 p.m., or by appointment, Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 549-2977.

Traywick Gallery, 1316 Tenth St., presents a group exhibition featuring seven artists who work in photography and related media including sculpture and video. The exhibition continues through Nov. 24. The exhibition, "In Through the Outdoors," includes artists from Los Angeles, Chicago and the San Francisco Bay Area. For more information, call 527-1214.

Albany Community Center continues its exhibit of acrylic paintings by Mei-Rung Huang through Dec. 6 in its foyer, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. The exhibit entitled "Lotus," is influenced by both Eastern and Western traditions of art. Huang has been painting since she was very young and studied with her parents as well as several masters in Taiwan. She later majored in Art at Eastern Oregon State University. For more information, call 524-9283.

The Richmond Museum of History continues exhibits highlighting Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial achievements, and hometown contributions during WWII. Special exhibits and events are held throughout the year. The museum is located in the historic 1910 Carnegie Library in the Old Downtown area at the corner of 4th Street and Nevins Ave. Call 235-7387 for more information or to arrange tours.

The City of El Cerrito presents Open Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on requests. Admission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 non-residents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more information, call Judie at 215-4371.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art

Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery is located on Solano Avenue. New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary Events

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings

Berkeley Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings, at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Share your slides

and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 525-3565.

Music

The Dietz Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required, just a love of singing. Classical, pop, sacred, Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677.

Duckean Distones, featuring Donald Bayley on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds: house sparrows, starlings

and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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I wish to designate my contribution ☐ In memory of ☐ In honor of

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You ☐ may ☐ may not publish my name (name will be published in the Times if no box is checked).

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Auto Plus

Friday, November 23, 2001

Section D

Gender Gap: Dodge makes Dakota more civilized [D3]



HONDA ODYSSEY minivan now offers serious challenge to American models that have dominated market for 20 years.

Honda Odyssey is more than a people-box on wheels

PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE
What a turnaround the Honda Odyssey minivan has made. It went from being a quirky, sedan-based wagon to a leader in the highly competitive minivan market in just a few short years.

It's available as the affordable LX or the top-line EX, which we drive this week.

Outside: The first Odyssey, the 1995-98 model, was based on the Accord sedan and was not only much smaller than the current version, but its rear doors opened outward, sedan-style.

On the current Odyssey the wheelbase has grown by nearly 7 inches, the width by 5 inches and the overall length by more than 13. This all came in an effort to compete with the sales-leading American offerings that have been dominating for almost 20 years.

Dual sliding side doors are standard, while our tester featured powered sliding doors that can be activated by a button on the key fob or by a dashboard switch.

Exterior changes for 2002 include a new grille, tail lamp lenses and three new color choices. Re-

TOM HAGIN
Solo Road Test

vised multi-spoked alloy wheels are also new for '02 and standard on Odyssey EX.

Inside: Climbing into the Odyssey is a simple sideways maneuver. The side doors open wide for access to the rear seat, and with the middle row being able to slide fore and aft, climbing into the rear-most seats isn't such a chore.

Seven passengers can be

seated comfortably in all seating positions, even those over 6-feet tall.

And the third row's nifty ability to fold flat into a deep well in the floor means that removal for extra cargo space is unnecessary.

For 2002, leather seating is now an option on EX models, as is the industry's first factory-installed DVD entertainment system, which includes a 7-inch-wide, rear-mounted fold-down display screen, a dash-mounted control unit with a wireless remote control and a pair of wireless headphones for rear pas-

sengers. Other devices such as VCRs and game consoles can also be used via audio and video input jacks.

Also new are a thicker steering wheel, a revised shifter column and a lumbar support adjustment on the driver's seat. Front side airbags are now standard as well.

On the Road: It seems these days that everyone wants more power — even minivan drivers.

See SOLO, Page D2

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Dakota V-6: a civilized pickup

BY MATT NAUMAN

Brandon: Anyone one who is a fan of the 1980 "Blues Brothers" film with John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd knows what a pickup car they had. Jake and Elwood drove a retired Dodge pickup police car in and around Chicago while outrunning the police on their "Mission from God."

Since then, Dodge has produced a few other missions that, in an on a new 2002 Dodge pickup truck, could be as action packed as the wild chases that the brothers found themselves

in. For '02, Dodge has redesigned its truck line, proclaiming it "Mayor of Truckville." I'm sure that what means, but the new Dakota Quad Cab has anything to do with it, it will make a very dapper public of-

ness. It has four full-sized doors and a room for four, so if you wanted to take it tailgating at your local football stadium, you can pack the barbecue, the cooler, and a few friends.

Ever since Dodge introduced its big rig redesign in 1997, its trucks have sold well. The '02 Dakota follows the lead of the Ram trucks, but on a smaller scale.

It offers a bevy of engines starting with its smallest, the anemic but reliable 2.5-liter inline four. Our test unit this week carries the next-up 3.9 V-6.

With 175 horses and 225 pound-feet of torque, it's no slouch, but it gets the job done. Mikele: It's no match for the '01 V-8 model we tried recently. It's more civilized and less macho. I always liked the looks of Dodge trucks and Dakota is one of the best-looking I've seen.

This year the Dakota has many different options available, and if a buyer wants an automatic, Dodge offers its state-of-the-art 45RFE transmission which utilizes a unique dual range second gear to help with passing or towing.

It also helps refine the flow of power and increases fuel economy. Of course, you can always go with a manual transmission, but I would opt for an automatic.

Maybe I'm just getting old and boring, but in a daily-use truck, an automatic makes sense.

The Dakota Quad Cab has all the bells and whistles to help handle well and Dodge added an optional rear stabilizer bar, too.

It has front disc and rear drum brakes with an optional



DAIMLERCHRYSLER GROUP

DODGE HAS redesigned its truck line for 2002, including the four-door V-6 Dakota Quad Cab which comes with several transmission options.

BRENDAN/MIKELE HAGIN

Gender Gap

four-wheel anti-lock system and lots of other equipment groups that offer things like a Class IV trailer hitch platform, all-season performance tires, heavy duty alternators, and three underbody skid plates.

Brendan: Mikele, I'm impressed with your knowledge of the Dakota. You must have read that press pack from front to back.

I only looked it over and found it has some cool interior options like leather high-back bucket seats, a penholder, three cupholders and a cell phone compartment.

It also has an option that includes an overhead console with dual map lamps, a ticket clip and dual storage compartments.

Mikele: I'd have to bypass that option if we bought a Dakota, Bren, because dual storage compartments means dual places for you to store junk in and it's obvious that you like your junk.

The Dakota, as well as all Dodge trucks, has a very hip-looking exterior.

They've started a trend with hoods that bulge up high above the fender line for that semi-tractor appearance, and they look like they can handle just about anything.

Dodge offers many different wheels, but my favorites are the optional five-spoke alloy wheels with raised white-lettering performance tires.

That makes it look tough, and with its four-door design, makes for a classy cruiser for the family.

Brendan: Safety is a big issue with everyone nowadays, and the Dakota has the usual items.

Driver and passenger front airbags are coupled with three-point seat belts and an optional

security system with a Sentry Key Engine Immobilizer unit makes the Dakota relatively safe from car theft.

Even the crafty "Blues Brothers" would have a tough time ripping off a new Dakota.

Mikele: You and your Dad must have seen that "Blues Brothers" movie 100 times.

I bet you guys would just love to recreate those amazing chase scenes in a beat-up mid-'70s Dodge Monaco cop car.

Brendan: We had one at one time, Mikele, but Dad is more sedate now.

This mild-mannered V-6 Dakota is more his speed.

Q & A

Honda has always expressed the position that a quart of oil in 1,000 miles is acceptable to them although it's hard to get any automaker to put this kind of information in print.

I can't explain high compression for lack of space but I've sent you a graphic rendition of the four-stroke combustion sequence. It's just possible that you bought the wrong car for your needs.

There are other sporty cars on the market that aren't so high-strung as the S2000.

Q I own a 1970 Olds Cutlass sedan. Recently the valves were replaced so as to stop oil leakage.

The oil leakage has been stopped, however, a thump-thump-thump noise can now be heard which did not exist before the work was done.

I've been told that the noise is normal and that the noise will stop once the valves have settled. Does this statement make sense?

F.T. Norfolk, Va.

A Since the poppet valves in an engine make a metal-to-metal contact with the valve seats they seal with, it's not possible for them to settle.

Post-repair problems like yours are the reasons that most pro mechanics don't like to do partial jobs on old, high mileage vehicles.

Once the technician gets into the cylin-

der heads, he or she discovers that the heads are warped, the valve guides are worn, the hydraulic cam followers are not only collapsed but worn out and may have worn the camshaft as well.

Once all these things are done and the car is running, it may be found that the increased cylinder head sealing aggravates weak piston rings and connecting rod bearings causing them to rattle and/or pass oil.

A more likely explanation for your noise is that the hydraulic pushrod lifters that operate the valves bed down and lost their prime and now have too much clearance which makes them noisy.

Your best bet is to believe your mechanic and hope the noise abates. But keep reminding your mechanic and don't wait too long.

Q A friend of mine on Guam has a 1989 Ford Courier pickup. He is looking for lens covers.

I didn't know that they made the Ford Courier pickup past 1982. Where can I find these lenses for him?

H.V. Springfield, Ore.

A According to my sources of information, the Ford Courier ended in 1982. But in reality, the Ford Courier is a clone of the Mazda short-bed pickup and there may have been some crossovers built for overseas markets.

Have your friend check his serial number and country of origin. It will be easier for you if you have the broken one in your hand before you start a search. Sometimes they have parts numbers on them.

DODGE DAKOTA QUAD CAB V-6

Suggested Retail Price as Tested	\$18,181
Engine Type	OHV 16-valve 3.9-liter V-6 w/SMFI*
Engine Size	239 cid/3906 cc
Horsepower	175 @ 4,800 rpm
Torque	225 @ 3,200 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Gross Weight	4,499 pounds
Fuel Capacity	22 gallons
Tires	(F/R) P235/75R15 all-season
Brakes	(F/R) Disc/drum (ABS)
Drive Train	Front-engine/rear-wheel drive
Vehicle Type	Six-passenger/two-door
Mileage	City/highway 16/20
Maximum towing	3,700 pounds

*Optional multi-port fuel injection

Truck sales grew 27 percent in period from 1996 to 2000

BY MATT NAUMAN

WRIGHT BROTHERS NEWSPAPERS
SAN JOSE — Trucks, including sport-utilities and minivans, continue to hold the fascination of Americans.

In 2000, U.S. dealers sold almost as many new trucks (8.4 million) as cars (8.7 million).

Truck sales grew 27 percent in the five years from 1996 to 2000.

Ten nameplates, including Ford, Chevrolet and Dodge, the three biggest-selling brands, sold more trucks than cars last year.

The most popular Lexus was a truck, the RX 300 sport-utility. The most popular Mercedes-Benz model was a truck, too, the M-Class sport-utility.

But another figure is more telling. R.L. Polk reports that the number of trucks in use in the United States grew from about 18 million in 1991 to more than 28 million in 2000.

Over the decade, the num-

ber of cars on the road barely budged (from 123 million to 127 million).

Mercedes and Lincoln started selling trucks in 1997, Cadillac in 1998, BMW in 1999 and Hyundai in 2000.

For 2002, Kia adds a minivan and Saturn adds a small sport-utility.

There's a new version of the menacing Dodge Ram pickup, as well as new SUVs — sport-utility trucks — from Cadillac, Chevy and Lincoln.

Plus, buyers will have to count the number of redesigned sport-utilities on both hands, starting with the Ford Explorer, Chevy TrailBlazer and Honda CR-V.

In 2003, Porsche and Volkswagen will start selling SUVs, and Nissan will add a full-size pickup and a full-size SUV.

As more than one industry pundit has noted, today's family car is a truck, most likely a sport-utility, minivan or four-door pickup.

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FACTORY REBATE-\$1,000
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GENERAL MOTORS/CHEVROLET

CHEVROLET has retooled the Corvette Z06 into one of the best performance cars made in the U.S.

Chevy powers up the Corvette Z06

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

Few among us who drove the new-for-2001 Chevrolet Corvette Z06 cried out for more horsepower.

The 385 horses the 5.7-liter LS6 V-8 generated was just fine, thanks — in a recent test of the 2001 Z06, it went from 0 to 60 mph in 4.5 seconds, and covered the quarter-mile in 12.7 seconds, at 112 mph.

Chevrolet begs to differ. The 2002 Z06 gets a whopping 405 horsepower and 400 pound-feet of torque, which is the measure of pulling power.

Chevy says to expect a 0 to 60 mph time of 3.9 seconds, and a quarter-mile run of 12.4 seconds at 116 mph.

In a word: Yikes!

This is not the first 405-horsepower Corvette — the legendary ZR1, which had a six-year run in the 1990s, started out with 375 horsepower and ended up with 405 horsepower before the model was canceled.

But the ZR1 was a very expensive car — close to \$70,000 — with a very complex, high-tech engine, developed in part by Lotus.

Figuring dollar-per-horsepower, the 2002 Z06 is a bargain. This 2002 model costs \$50,420, including \$270 in minor options.

In its final model year, the 1995 Corvette

ZR1 added \$31,258 to the price of a regular 300-horsepower Corvette. The 2002 Z06 adds \$8,710 to the price of a regular 350-horsepower Corvette.

The only vehicle that comes close to offering this much performance for the money is the 450-horsepower Dodge Viper, but it lists for more than \$70,000 and is not nearly so happy to be used as a daily commuter.

There are only a few differences in the 2002's LS6 engine from the 2001 version. They include the use of lighter, hollow-stemmed valves, a different camshaft and an improved air intake system.

Chevy also found a way to eliminate one of the catalytic converters in the exhaust system, thus allowing for freer exhaust flow.

Otherwise, not a great deal is new here from '01. The Z06 gets a new side emblem that says "405 horsepower"—which is bound to appeal to every juvenile delinquent with a screwdriver.

Presumably, Chevy will lay in a batch of extra emblems to replace the inevitably pried-off ones.

Also, the suspension system has been retuned for the front and rear, and the aluminum wheels are now cast rather than forged.

The 2002 Z06 also gets a standard "head's up" display, which projects data such as vehicle speed on the windshield,

in the driver's line of sight.

Handling is just phenomenal. Chevrolet's "Active Handling" system adjusts the suspension to the conditions: Leave the Active Handling and the traction control engaged, and the Z06 is easy to drive even on slick pavement. Turn the system off, and be prepared for a hair-raising ride.

Surprisingly, despite its capability, the Z06 is a very comfortable car on all but the roughest roads. At cruise, it's also quiet, except for tire noise.

As you'd expect, when you have monster P265/40ZR-17 Goodyear F1 radials on the front and steamroller-sized P295/35ZR-18s on the rear, that's a lot of rubber on the road. (Before you ask, I checked with the Tire Rack, a discount mail-order dealer on the price of a replacement set of tires: \$1,088.)

Seldom — maybe never — has so much performance been available at such a comparatively low price.

And the real accomplishment here is that while the Z06 is a stunning performer, it cheerfully lopes around town through rush-hour traffic without dramatics.

Of course, standard Corvettes, with 350 horsepower, are no slouches, but the Z06 is the one to buy when your lottery number comes up.

All aspects considered, I submit that this is the best car made in America.

Hagin

FROM PAGE D1

John Lampe, chief operating officer of the Firestone unit, the most ardent defender of Firestone and originator of the decision to not do business with Ford anymore.

But Bridgestone as a brand wants to increase its penetration into the U.S. market and now that deposed Ford boss Jac Nasser is out of the sensitive picture, it may be possible to bury the hatchet and try to restore consumer confidence in both companies.

Mazda calls for more female

BY KECS

According to Mazda Motor Corp. statistics, half of its buyers are female. And in view of this, says Mazda Chief Executive Officer Mark Fields, it makes sense to have at least a third of its managers worldwide members of that same gender.

Fields' plan is to reach this goal within a single decade and towards this end, he has directed his executive managers to pay special attention to capable female employees. This is an ambitious undertaking in view of the fact that the percentage of women in high-ranking positions within the Ford Motor Company is just over seven percent and Ford owns Mazda.

Fields also stated that within that same 10-year window, all Mazda senior executives will be Japanese without foreign influence. Quotas have already been put into place for the promotion of women within the Mazda ranks.

Time will tell if the enforcement of employee quotas will work for Mazda better than they have for the rest of the business world in cracking the glass ceiling of management.

Changing of the guard becomes palace coup

When GM Chief Executive Rick Wagoner hired Bob Lutz to fill the specially created position of vice president in charge of product and getting GM back on track, it was the kiss of death for Ron Zarella, then GM president. Lutz, one-time vice president

of Ford, had been aced out of his position as Chrysler president when Daimler-Benz annexed that company and went to work at a national battery company.

Small potatoes for a high-profile high-roller so when Wagoner proposed that he take over control of vehicle design and everything else involved with his first love, the making of knockout cars and trucks, he wasted no time in accepting.

We all wondered how long it would take before Lutz was blown out the front door or took over the place and eight weeks later we got the answer.

Lutz was named president of General Motors and Zarella went back to his old job of peddling contact lenses for Bausch & Lomb.

Zarella had a problem from the start in that, not being a Car Guy, he didn't understand that a car company couldn't simply put an old product in a new box and sell it to anxious buyers. That kind of marketing works with soap and soup but car buyers are, for the most part, a more discerning lot.

Tough times for DaimlerChrysler

All of which must make DaimlerChrysler boss Juergen Schrempf wonder if he did the right thing when he had Lutz cashiered out from his job at Chrysler. Since then, it's been a downhill slide for the German car-building executive and the automotive empire he envisioned.

During the past three years since the takeover, DaimlerChrysler stock has lost \$74 billion in value which has its German and American investors very unhappy.

Schrempf was also instrumental in the departure of most of Chrysler's market-savvy middle and senior management guys, filling those jobs with Germans who really didn't understand the desires of American car and truck buyers and the needs of Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep dealers, the second most important factors in the sales equation after buyers.

Add to this the facts that American OEM parts suppliers resent and resist his strong-arm methods of getting them to lower their prices as well as buying the also-ailing Mitsubishi automaker.

It's too late to get Lutz back but the word is that Jac Nasser is looking for a job.

Infiniti pushing luxury, performance for 2002

NEWSDAY

The top-of-the-line Infiniti Q45 car from the luxury division of Nissan is new and on sale.

This third-generation Q has a new 32-valve, 340-horsepower, 4.5-liter V-8 engine, new styling, revised front suspension geometry and an all-new multiturn rear suspension.

Infiniti says the body is 40 percent more rigid than that of its predecessor. It also has a longer wheelbase for increased interior and trunk space.

Also new is a multifunction 7-inch LCD touch-screen video display with available navigation and rearview monitor systems and laser-based cruise control that maintains a set distance from the car ahead.

Meanwhile, the I35, formerly the I30, sports a new designation to reflect its larger and more powerful engine, a V-6 engine displacing 3.5 liters and producing 260 horsepower.

Infiniti says the I35 also has a strengthened four-speed electronically controlled automatic transmission, larger front disc

brakes with ABS and Brake Assist, and revised exterior and interior styling and amenities, including a new stereo.

A traction control system is available with Vehicle Dynamic Control.

The smaller G20 sedan gets only minor changes for 2002 as does the QX4 SUV.

The division is promising a new high-performance sedan, the G35, in the spring as a 2003 model and a car-based SUV at an unspecified future date.

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GM to open Internet connection to aftermarket

BY JIM MATEJA
AND RICK POPELY

LAS VEGAS — The Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), which represents aftermarket companies that produce and sell parts and components to boost performance of the meekest machines to the look of sportiness, is opening up the Internet to what it calls "performance economy cars."

General Motors says it will open up more closely with vehicle owners through a program called Tek Connect. Beginning next month, three-dimensional models, drawings and photographs for select GM products will be available to SEMA members via a Web site.

"We're making it easier for SEMA members to develop high-quality, innovative accessories for our vehicles," said GM Middlebrook, GM general manager for brand marketing.

The startup of Tek Connect supports GM's efforts to partner with SEMA members for the development and licensing of accessories.

"Our goal is to make GM vehicles the platform of choice for customization," Middlebrook said, aware that aftermarket performance parts and dress-up accessories are a \$25 billion market that GM would like a piece of, as well as the fact that the platform of choice for customization among youth now is the Honda Civic.

Tek Connect has another goal, said Jon Moss, manager of specialty vehicles for GM.

"By making our specifications available to SEMA mem-

bers, they'll then be able to make their aftermarket parts to our tolerance levels, which means the parts that go on our vehicles to customize them will have the same quality as those that go into our cars as original equipment."

Customized Civics

Honda says its Civic is the most customized car in the land, and it wants a bigger portion of the lucrative accessories and parts business for its popular compact.

Beginning in the spring, Honda will offer a sport suspension package for the Civic EX coupe for the first time as a dealer-installed accessory.

The package will include lightweight 16-inch alloy wheels, performance tires, firmer springs that lower the ride height and stiffer shock absorbers — parts previously available only from aftermarket suppliers who cater to Civic owners.

Honda announced the suspension package recently at the Specialty Equipment Market Association show in Las Vegas.

Honda says it will carry a suggested retail price of less than \$4,000 and will come with a three-year/36,000-mile warranty when installed by a dealer, longer than the warranties on most aftermarket accessories.

A performance-oriented Civic Si hatchback goes on sale in March, and Honda will offer a line of factory accessories for the Si, such as carbon-fiber interior trim, splash guards and fog lights.

Honda signaled its plans to become bolder with its factory-built accessories soon, showing a Civic coupe concept decked out with ground-effects side trim that gives a lowered look, a rear-air diffuser and a huge rear wing, all of which were designed in-house.

In a similar vein, Acura,

Honda's luxury division, unveiled an RSX coupe concept that has a "slammed" look.

The track (distance between wheels on the same axle) is wider than stock by five inches, and the concept adds fender flares, carbon-fiber front and rear spoilers and 19-inch "black-chrome" wheels.

The RSX is a 2002 replacement for the Integra, which also was popular with performance tuners. SEMA says Hondas and Acuras account for nearly half the customized compact cars, a segment dominated by imports.

More custom concepts

Among other concepts revealed at SEMA was a supercharged version of the Land Rover Freelander, a new compact sport-utility vehicle on sale in December.

The Freelander concept was created by Callaway Cars, best known for the Callaway C12, a custom sports car based on the Chevrolet Corvette.

Supercharging the Freelander's 2.5-liter V-6 boosts horsepower to 250 from 175. Suspension modifications lower the ride height two inches and

styling tweaks streamline the exterior appearance. Land Rover says it is exploring whether to build the concept.

The British company tapped Callaway in 1999 for a limited-production, high-performance version of the Range Rover 4.6 HSE.

Isuzu took a similar route with the Ascent XSE concept, emphasizing on-road performance over off-road capability.

The XSE has a supercharger custom hood with fresh air intake, spoilers and ground-effects body trim fabricated by Italdesign California, which has done other concepts for Isuzu.

Hummer joins bandwagon

Even the giants had their day at SEMA. GM displayed the Hummer H1 Alpha, sporting more muscle with an 8.1-liter V-8 and premium entertainment system.

GM says take a close look because some of the accessories may show up on a production Hummer H1.

But it's more likely that much of this will appear on smaller Hummer H2 built off the Chevy Tahoe/GMC Yukon platform due

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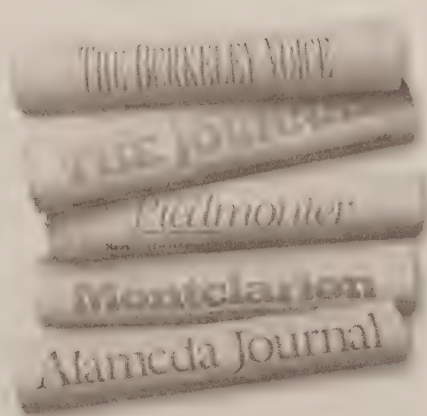
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
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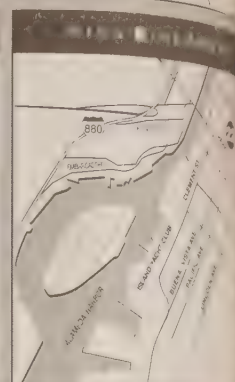
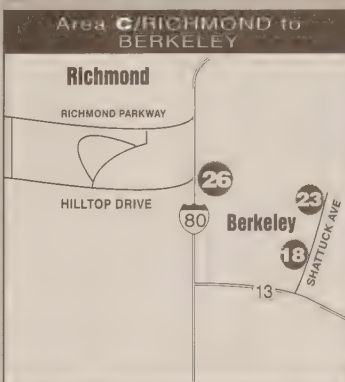
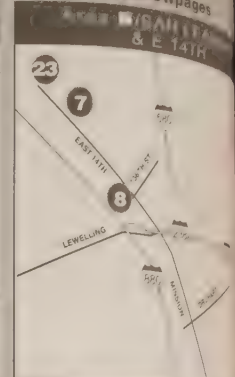
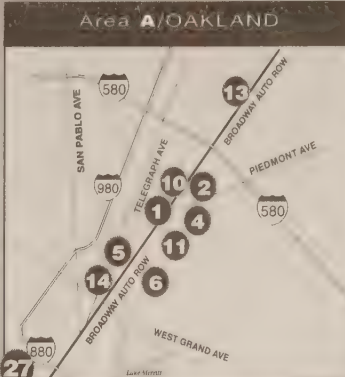
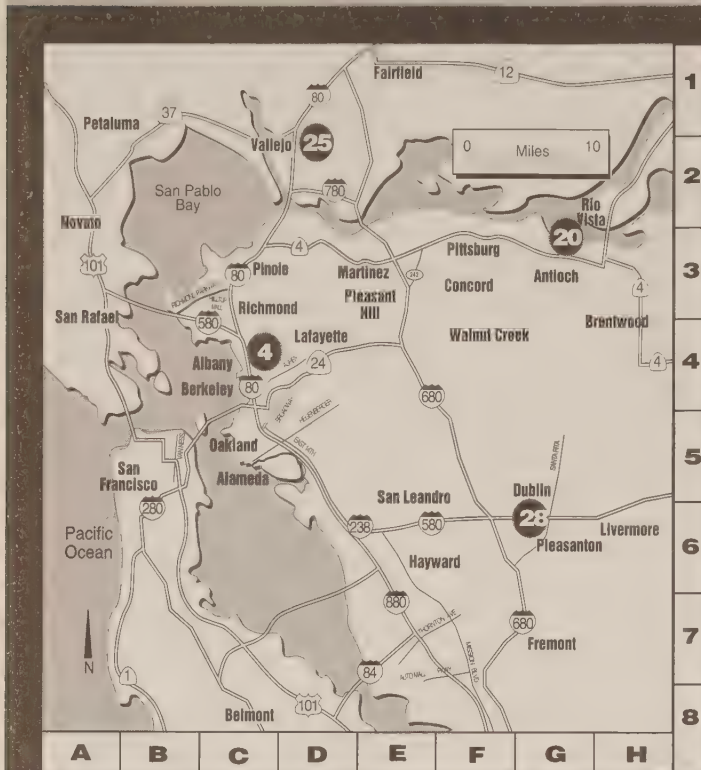
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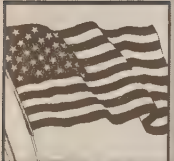
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November 23, 2001

SHOPS AND SERVICES OF THE EAST BAY
ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Nuts are full of fats, but they're good for you — in moderation

BY SYLVIA RECTOR

Sometimes, nutritional advice can be a lot like the weather. If you don't wait a while, it'll change. It's enough to drive you . . . well, Oh, all right. So you saw that one

thing. But what you might not have noticed is the dramatic change in experts' attitudes toward these tasty, crunchy — and high-in-fat — foods. Once regarded with suspicion because of their fats, nuts now are being praised for them.

That's because nut oils are mostly monounsaturated and polyunsaturated, which help lower cholesterol, in turn reduces the risk of heart disease, says Nelda Mercer of Ann Arbor, Mich., a registered dietitian and spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association.

Over the last decade, she says, nuts' protective benefits have been demonstrated in numerous epidemiological studies — ones in which scientists follow large groups of people over long periods.

What they've learned is that, in populations that incorporate nuts into a healthy diet, there is a lower incidence of cardiovascular disease," Mercer says.

Nuts are very, very good foods to include in one's diet," she adds.

And the best time to do so is surely autumn, when a new nut crop is arriving in markets and the holiday entertaining season is waiting to unfold.

Nuts can add sophistication, texture and distinction to almost any kind of dish. Sprinkle them on salads or into cereals; use them in pilafs, couscous and pastas; toss them into a stir fry; or use finely chopped nuts as a coating to add flavor and texture to broiled, sautéed or baked chicken and other meats.

Nuts are most familiar in desserts, of course, but don't kid yourself. A daily bit of pecan pie won't improve your

heart health.

When you use nuts in desserts, Mercer says, "You're adding all the other types of fat — the saturated fats — so you're sort of negating the healthful benefits of the nuts."

Lots of people prefer munching them out of hand — which is fine if you have great self-control. But too many of us don't.

"You have to be careful with snacks, because you can overdo it," Mercer says.

An ounce a day is plenty. That's about a quarter cup, or the amount you can hold in your cupped palm. On average, an ounce of nuts contains about 15 grams of fat, the equivalent of one tablespoon of oil, Mercer says.

The best way to use them, then, may be in salads, cereals, main dishes and other savory foods, where you can enjoy their rich, haunting flavors and satisfying crunch with less risk of over-indulging.

But don't just toss them in. Toast them first. That's a trick that chefs have used for ages but some home cooks still haven't adopted. Toasting nuts deepens their flavors and helps make a few nuts taste like a lot more.

And that's the idea: Use them sparingly — as an accent — to reap their benefits without suffering the consequences of their calories.

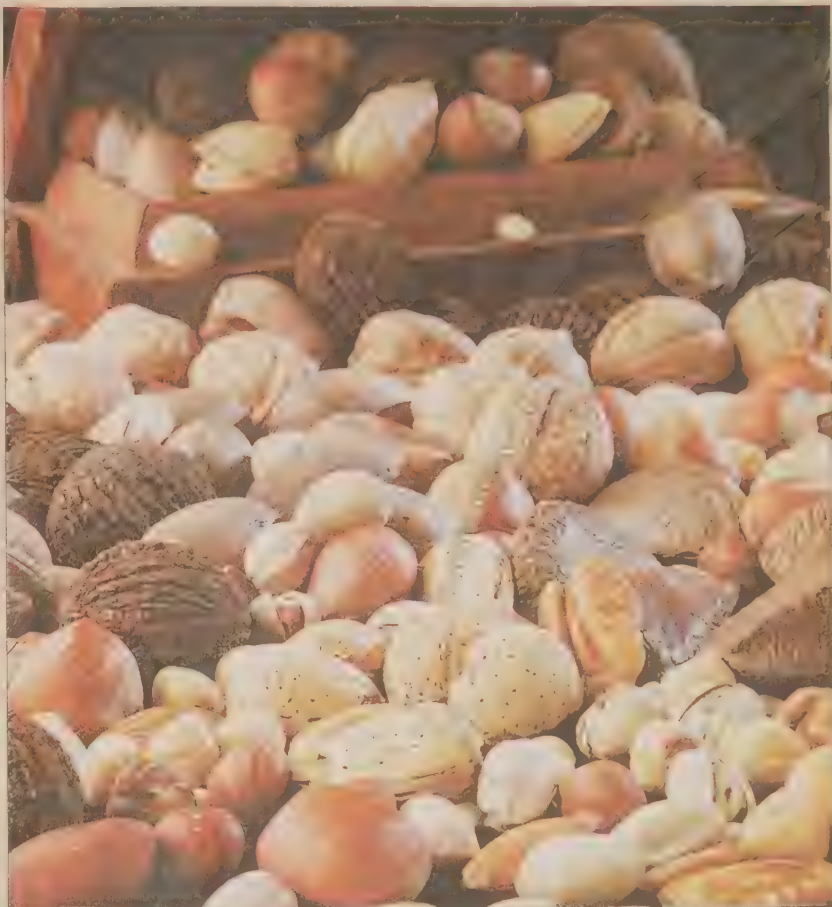
Which nut to nosh?

Besides choosing nuts for their flavor, you might want to choose them based on their nutritional profiles.

Cashews and pistachios are lowest in total fat, with 13 grams per ounce. Pine nuts, peanuts and almonds — with 14 grams — are next lowest.

The fattiest nuts are macadamias with 21 grams, pecans with 20 and Brazils with 19 grams of total fat per ounce.

But the new nutritional lesson is that



NOT ALL NUTS ARE ALIKE: cashews and pistachios are lowest in fat with macadamias having the highest fat content

See NUTS, Page 2

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they're about giving...*

Annual Tree Lighting

Saturday, November 24th - Under the central rotunda at 5:00 p.m. Join us for a musical evening with the San Ramon Valley High School Chamber Singers, as Santa helps us light our tree.

Food and Toy Drive

November 23rd - December 31st - Collecting non-perishable foods. Collecting new, packaged and unwrapped toys for ages 2-14. Collection bins available at each entrance to the shopping center.

Change-A-Life Giftwrap & Coat Drive

November 23rd - December 24th - Weekends through Dec. 16th, then everyday from December 17th through the 24th, noon to 4:00 p.m. Have your Holiday gifts beautifully wrapped for free. Benefiting Wardrobe for Opportunity. Located directly across from The Blue Footed Booby Canoe Club.

Santa's Digital Photo Workshop

November 23rd - December 24th. Weekends through December 16th, Noon - 4:30 p.m., then everyday from December 17th through the 23rd, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; then Christmas Eve., 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Have a family photo taken with Santa. Great quality digital photos ready in about a minute. Located in the photo space near Ann Taylor.

Chanukah Menorah Lighting

December 9th - December 15th - 7:00 p.m. Join Beth Chaim Congregation of Danville in kindling the festival lights every evening in the central fountain area. Special celebrations on Dec. 9th and 14th with music, dancing and refreshments.

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Nuts

FROM PAGE 1

the kind of fat contained in a food can be just as important as the amount.

Walnuts, hazelnuts and almonds may be some of the best choices; they're high in beneficial unsaturated fats and have the smallest amounts of bad (saturated) fats — just 1 to 1.5 grams per ounce. On the other end of the scale, Brazil nuts have 5 grams of undesirable fat, macadamias have 3.5 grams and cashews have 3 grams.

Some nuts also are good sources of vitamin E — a hard-to-find nutrient in the plant world.

Vitamin E helps protect against heart disease because it's an antioxidant — a very potent antioxidant — that protects your blood LDL cholesterol from oxidation," Mercer says. "But only about three-fourths of Americans get enough of it in their diets — a deficiency that nutritionists call the 'vitamin E gap.' To fill it, women need an extra 3 milligrams and men an extra 5 milligrams of the vitamin daily.

"And how can they get it? By having just one ounce of almonds, which contain 7 to 8 milligrams of vitamin E. . . That's enough to fill the gap," she says.

Peanuts and hazelnuts provide slightly less, but still significant, amounts of vitamin E.

Of all the nuts, the best protein sources are peanuts and pine nuts, with 7 grams per ounce; pistachios and almonds have 6 grams.

If you're looking for added dietary fiber, choose almonds, hazelnuts, pecans and pistachios; each has 3 grams of fiber per ounce.

There's no one food that fills every need, of course, and nuts are no exception.

"If you add nuts to a horrible diet, it's not going to help you," Mercer cautions. "If you're eating fast food all the time, not exercising and having a lot of alcohol, and then you throw in some nuts, that won't help."

But as long as they're part of an overall healthy lifestyle and diet, "There's no reason to shy away from nuts," she says.

WILD RICE WITH PECANS

1 cup uncooked wild rice
5½ cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
1 cup dried cherries
1 cup pecan halves
4 green onions, washed, ends removed, thinly sliced
Grated peel of 1 orange
1/3 cup orange juice
2 tablespoons olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Place the rice in a strainer and rinse thoroughly under cold water. Place the rice in a medium, heavy saucepan. Add the chicken broth and heat to boiling. Reduce the heat and simmer, uncovered, 45 minutes to 1 hour or until the rice is tender. Drain and place in a bowl. Add the cherries, pecans, green onion, orange peel, orange juice, olive oil and salt and pepper; toss gently. Let stand at least 2 hours for the flavors to develop. Serve at room temperature or heat before serving.

Makes 8 servings.
From "Celebrated Seasons," (Junior League of Minneapolis, \$19.95)

STIR-FRIED VEAL WITH CASHES

1½ pounds boneless veal loin, bottom round, sirloin or shoulder, trimmed of fat and cut into ¾-inch cubes; or substitute boneless, skinless chicken breast
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 large egg white
¼ cup peanut oil
1 cup raw cashews
1-inch piece of fresh ginger root, peeled, finely chopped
3 green onions, washed, ends removed, white and green portions sliced separately
½ red bell pepper, washed, cut into thin strips about 1 ½ inches long
¼ pound snow peas, stems and strings removed, halved diagonally
1 tablespoon dry sherry
1 teaspoon sugar
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon dark sesame oil

In a medium bowl, place the veal cubes. Add the cornstarch and toss to coat. Add the egg white and toss again. Let sit 15-20 minutes. In a large skillet or wok, heat the peanut oil. When hot, add the cashews and fry until lightly browned, 2-3 minutes. Remove the nuts using a slotted spoon to a paper towel to drain.

Increase the heat to medium-high and add the veal cubes, stir-frying until cooked through, about 5 minutes. Remove the veal using a slotted spoon and set aside.

Add the ginger and the white part of the green onions to the oil and stir-fry 1 minute. Add the red pepper and snow peas and stir-fry 1 minute more. Add the cooked veal, sherry, sugar and salt. Toss to coat thoroughly, about 1 minute. Add the cashews, sesame oil and green parts of the green onion, toss and serve.

Serve alone or over rice. Makes 6 servings.

From "Nuts: A cookbook" by Ford Rogers (Fireside, \$18).

Tested by Susan Selasky for the Detroit Free Press Test Kitchen

SCALLOPS WITH LEMON AND PISTACHIOS

4 tablespoons unsalted butter
1½ tablespoons finely chopped shallot
1½ pounds sea scallops, rinsed, halved if large
¼ cup fresh lemon juice
½ cup shell, peeled and roasted pistachios, coarsely chopped
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
Lemon slices for garnish, optional

In a large skillet over medium heat, melt the butter. Add the shallot and scallops and saute until the scallops are opaque, 3-5 minutes. Add the lemon juice and pistachios. Toss to combine. Heat through and season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve with lemon slices if desired.

Makes 6 servings.
From "Nuts: A cookbook" by Ford Rogers (Fireside, \$18).

Tested by Susan Selasky for the Detroit Free Press Test Kitchen

DIJON PECAN SALMON

4 boneless salmon fillets, about 5 ounces each
Kosher (or table) salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
1 tablespoon honey

2 teaspoons olive oil
¼ cup orange juice
2 tablespoons pecan pieces
Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Line a jelly-roll pan with parchment paper or brush lightly with a little oil to prevent salmon from sticking to the pan. Rinse and pat dry the salmon fillets and place them on the prepared baking sheet. Season with salt and pepper.

In a small bowl mix together the Dijon mustard, honey, olive oil and orange juice until smooth. Brush the mixture on the salmon fillets. Sprinkle the pecan pieces evenly over the salmon fillets. Place in the oven and bake 15 minutes or until the salmon is cooked through. Remove from oven and serve.

Makes 4 servings.
Cook's note: The basting sauce for the salmon helps keep the salmon moist. The sauce can be adjusted to taste adding more honey for a sweeter flavor or more juice and mustard for a tangy citrus flavor. Make a double batch of the basting sauce and serve it on the side with the salmon. Serve the salmon on a bed of julienned steamed zucchini, summer squash and carrots and with roasted red-skin potatoes.
From the Detroit Free Press Test Kitchen

COLD NOODLES WITH SPICY ALMOND SAUCE

4 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
1 cup sliced blanched almonds
2 tablespoons soy sauce
3 tablespoons white rice vinegar or white wine vinegar
1 teaspoon sugar
1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger
2 cloves garlic, peeled, crushed
2 tablespoons dry sherry
2 to 3 tablespoons hot chili oil or to taste
1 pound soba noodles or spaghetti
3 green onions, washed, ends removed, sliced diagonally
1 medium cucumber, peeled, seeded and cut into matchstick-size pieces

In a 10-inch skillet over medium-high heat, heat 3 tablespoons of the vegetable oil. Add the almonds and fry until lightly brown, about 2 minutes. Remove about one-third of the almonds using a slotted spoon and drain them on paper towels. Set aside.

Place the remaining almonds and oil from the skillet in a food processor fitted with the metal blade. Process, pulsing on and off, until a smooth butter texture forms.

Add the soy sauce, vinegar, sugar, ginger, garlic, sherry and chili oil and continue to process until the mixture is smooth and well combined. (The almond sauce can be made up to several days in advance to this point. Refrigerate the sauce and bring to room temperature before serving.)

Cook the noodles until al dente according to package directions. Drain and rinse the noodles under cold water until they are thoroughly cooled. Drain again. Toss the noo-

dles with the remaining 1 tablespoon vegetable oil and serve on a platter or on individual plates, topped with the almond sauce and garnished with the green onions, cucumber and reserved almonds.

Makes 6 servings.
From "Nuts: A cookbook" by Ford Rogers (Fireside, \$18)

PECAN AND PROSCIUTTO BREAD

Olive oil for greasing bowl
5 tablespoons unsalted butter or margarine or vegetable shortening, softened, divided
6 ounces prosciutto, chopped
1 ¼ cups warm water (105 to 115 degrees)
1 package (¼ ounce) active dry yeast
2 tablespoons sugar
4 1/3 to 4 2/3 cups bread flour, divided

1 ½ teaspoons freshly cracked black pepper

1 ½ cups coarsely chopped pecans
2 teaspoons cornmeal
Grease the inside of a large bowl using the olive oil and set aside.

In a medium skillet, heat ½ tablespoon of the butter over medium heat. Add the prosciutto and saute it for about 2 minutes. Pour the meat and butter into a large, ungreased mixing bowl. Add the warm water, yeast and sugar to the bowl; stir to combine. Mix in 1 cup of the flour and 4 tablespoons of the remaining butter. Stir until well combined. Add the pepper, pecans and 3 cups of the remaining flour. Mix well to form a dough.

Sprinkle 1/3 cup of flour on a clean work surface and turn the dough out onto it. Knead, incorporating more flour as needed to keep the dough from sticking. Do not use any more flour than necessary. Knead for about 5 minutes, until the dough is smooth and elastic.

Form the dough into a ball and place it in the greased bowl. Turn the dough over so it is greased on all sides. Cover the bowl and let the dough rise in a warm place until it is doubled in size, about 1-1 ½ hours. Sprinkle the cornmeal over a baking sheet or baguette pan; set aside.

Melt the remaining ½ tablespoon butter and set aside. When the dough has doubled, punch it down and turn it out onto a lightly floured work surface. Roll or pat the dough into a 10-by-15 inch rectangle. Roll the dough up tightly starting at the short side, jelly-roll fashion. Pinch the ends and the edges of the dough to seal it. If desired, cut the roll in half to make two loaves.

Place the roll on the prepared baking sheet, seam side down, with the ends tucked under it. Brush with the melted butter and cover it loosely with plastic wrap and let rise in a warm place until it has again doubled in size, about 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Bake the bread about 30 minutes or until it is browned and sounds hollow when tapped. Remove it from the oven and cool on a wire rack.

Makes 1 large baguette or two loaves, about 10 slices each; about 20 servings.

From "Nuts: A cookbook" by Ford Rogers (Fireside, \$18).

FRESH VEGETABLES WITH HERBS AND NUTS

1½ pounds seasonal fresh vegetables, cleaned and cut into serving-size pieces (asparagus, carrots, yellow squash, zucchini, cauliflower, etc.)
¼ cup melted butter
1 clove garlic, peeled, minced
2 teaspoons chopped fresh dill or 1 teaspoon dried
½ teaspoon chopped fresh thyme or ¼ teaspoon dried
¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
¼ cup finely chopped toasted hazelnuts

Steam or boil the vegetables separately until crisp-tender. Place in a serving bowl. In a small bowl mix together the butter, garlic, dill and thyme. Pour over the vegetables. Sprinkle with the Parmesan cheese and hazelnuts.

Makes 6 servings.
From "Hazelnuts & More Cookbook" by Lucy Gersbacher (Graphic Arts Center Publishing, \$19.95)
Tested by Susan Selasky for the Detroit Free Press Test Kitchen

PASTA NUT CARBONARA

4 slices thick bacon, cut into 1-inch pieces
2 cloves garlic, peeled, minced
1 small onion, peeled, chopped
3 medium ripe tomatoes, peeled, seeded and coarsely chopped (about 3 cups)
8 ounces dry spaghetti, cooked according to package directions
¼ cup finely chopped parsley
½ teaspoon salt
Freshly ground black pepper to taste
½ cup coarsely chopped hazelnuts
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese

In a large skillet or microwave, cook the bacon until crisp. Drain on paper towels. Pour off all but one tablespoon of the bacon fat (olive oil or vegetable oil can be used if desired) and, over medium heat, saute the garlic and onion for about 4 minutes or until softened. Add the tomatoes and stir until heated through. Add the cooked spaghetti, parsley and reserved bacon. Cook until just heated through. Add the salt and pepper. Mix in the hazelnuts, and top with the Parmesan cheese just before serving.

Makes 4 servings.
From "Hazelnuts & More Cookbook" by Lucy Gersbacher (Graphic Arts Center Publishing, \$19.95)
Tested by Susan Selasky for the Detroit Free Press Test Kitchen

TOFFEE
¾ cup coarsely chopped toasted almonds
Butter for saucepan
1 cup butter
1 cup sugar
1 tablespoon light corn syrup
3 tablespoons water
¾ cup coarsely chopped semi-

sweet chocolate
½ cup finely chopped almonds

Line a 13-by-5½-inch pan with foil. Butter the foil. Butter the sides of the pan. Let stand.

Combine the sugar, butter, corn syrup and water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture reaches a soft crack stage. Watch the thermometer.

Remove the pan from the heat. Sprinkle on the pieces, stirring gently until the mixture is spreadable. Spread over the toffee. Let cool until firm. Cut into pieces and cover. Makes 1½ pounds.

CANDIED NUTS

Butter for the foil
1½ cups nuts, sea-

Line a heavy skillet with parchment paper. Add the nuts, ½ cup sugar and ½ cup medium-high heat, stirring constantly. Let until the sugar melts.

Reduce the heat to low. Cook until the sugar is brown, stirring occasionally. Remove from the heat. Turn the nuts into the prepared pan. Sprinkle with the remaining sugar. When cool, break into pieces. Makes 12 servings.

Cook's note: Use nuts such as cashews, pecans, almonds or pistachios.

Holiday Tips

It's a good idea one week before you begin your holiday shopping to do a fridge and clean-out. Toss old condiments, leftovers and make room for all the ingredients you'll be buying next few weeks.

Here's an easy way to mugs of mulled cider or wine. Heat them two at a time just two minutes in the microwave. Corelle Enhancements solid white and composite Corelle pattern of other dishes and this way you free up and warm the mugs too.

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Holiday stain removal guidelines

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celebrations call for spe-
cial settings, candle
light, festive foods, and bever-
ages. When the food, beverages,
and candles wax accidentally stain

your fabrics and celebration
items are washable, the follow-
ing reminders will help you get
through the holidays with minimum
removal frustration. For best
results, treat all stains within 24
hours. Older stains are more diffi-
cult to remove.

Some items can only be dry-
cleaned. Take them to the cleaners
and explain the type of
stain. Some items must be
laundered because they include
non-washable components and are not
compatible with laundry processes.

What to do if the stain is washable

PROTEIN STAINS

- Egg yolk
- Ice cream
- Chocolate milk
- Milk puddings and pies
- Soak in cold water to soften
- Loosen protein. (Hot water
- Sets the stain into the fibers.)
- Launder with regular deter-
- gent and warm water

TANNIN STAINS

- Alcoholic beverages
- Beer, wine
- Citrus and other juices
- Lemonade, orange, grape)
- Cola and soft drinks
- Cranberry, blueberry,
- Strawberry, raspberry
- Coffee, tea (if coffee and tea
- are cream and sugar, treat as
- protein stain.)

Do not pretreat with bar soap.*

Launder with detergent and

hot water.

If trace remains, soak in all-

purpose bleach solution for five min-

utes. (Do not use all-fabric bleach in

if stain is not fresh.)

Caution: Soap sets tannin stains.

OIL STAINS

- Bacon fat
- Butter
- Mayonnaise
- Salad dressing
- Spray with aerosol pretreat-

ment spray or rub with liquid de-
tergent, then wash promptly in hot
water with detergent.

2. An oil stain that sets more
than a day in nylon, or polyester or
their blends will be hard to remove

DYE STAINS

- felt tip pen
- Koolaid
- mustard

1. Wash with detergent and hot
water; bleach, using the type that
is safe for the fabric. Follow bleach
bottle/package directions. All fab-
ric bleaches usually can be used
on colored fabrics. Liquid chlorine
bleach in dilute solution is more
powerful and effective for whites.

COMBINATION STAINS

- ball point
- chocolate
- lipstick
- pine resin
- turkey or other gravy

1. Treat protein portion of stain

first.

2. Treat oily portion of stain as

for oil stains.

3. Finally bleach as for dye stains.

HARD-TO-REMOVE COMBI-

NATION STAINS

- Candle wax

1. Let harden; scrape off solid

wax with dull knife.

2. Crack and remove as much

residue as possible in dry state.

3. Pretreat with aerosol pre-

treatment spray.

4. Scrub by hand using hot wa-

ter and liquid laundry detergent.

5. If color remains, bleach as

safe for fabric.

6. Launder. Repeat from 3 as

needed.

Note: Many stain removal guides

suggest ironing wax stains with ab-

sorbent paper towels to transfer and

absorb the wax. This forces the part

of the stain that doesn't transfer

farther into the yarns and fibers; it

will leave an oily looking permanent spot.

- Chewing gum

1. Apply ice to harden stain.

2. Spray with pretreatment

aerosol product.

4. Scrub with heavy-duty liquid

detergent.

5. Rinse in hot water; repeat

from 3, as needed.

6. Launder.

- Soot, smoke
- 1. If excess, shake off outdoors.
- 2. Launder in washer using
- heavy-duty detergent, water condi-
- tioner, and all fabric bleach.
- 3. Air dry; inspect for smoke
- odor.
- 4. Repeat as necessary.
- 5. Soot carbon particles get me-
- chanically stuck between fibers;
- bleaching as a last resort may not
- help much.

Tips on spot treatment of stains of delicate fabrics

The aim is to confine the stain
to as small a spot as possible. To
do this you need a supply of white
paper towels or clean rags and one
of these 3 things: a drycleaning sol-
vent, spot remover, or pretreatment
spray. Follow these steps

1. Pad the working surface with
clean rags or towels that can be
stained as you work.
2. Turn the stained area or spot
on the garment face down over the
padded surface.
3. Dampen a small white cloth
with solvent.
4. Use the damp cloth to rub the
stain from the wrong side. "Feath-
er" the edges of the stain
working from the outside edges to-
ward the center to confine the stain
to a small area.
5. As the stain transfers into the
absorbent material underneath,
move it to a different place so it has
a clean spot to exit into.
6. Repeat this procedure until all
traces of the stain are gone.
7. Launder to remove any ring
that might be left by the solvent.

Concentrated stain removers
and stain sticks may work the same,
as well as heavy-duty liquid deter-
gents, but are more convenient to
use because of packaging sizes.

Holiday tips

If you're serving seafood such as
lobster tail, baked shrimp or stuffed
and rolled sole, set out ComingWare
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guests can top off their selections
with hot, rich melted butter. They'll
appreciate those extra little touches

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The most widely available persimmon in the United States is the Hachiya, also called Japanese persimmon. It's large (up to three inches in diameter) and round, with a slightly elongated, pointed base. The Fuyu persimmon is smaller and more tomato-shaped. When ripe, both have a red-orange skin and flesh.

The Hachiya is quite soft when completely ripe and has a smooth, creamy texture and a tangy-sweet flavor. If eaten even slightly under-ripe, it will pucker the mouth with an incredible astringency. The Fuyu, however, is still firm when ripe and is not at all astringent.

Persimmons are available from October to February. Choose fruit that is plump and soft but not mushy (the Fuyu should be quite firm). The skin should be smooth, glossy and brightly colored. Persimmons that are not quite ripe can be ripened at room temperature. Store ripe fruit in the refrigerator for up to three days.

Persimmons can be used in baked goods, puddings and other desserts, as well as eaten out of hand. They contain a good amount of vitamin A and some vitamin C.

PERSIMMON CHEESECAKE

Crust:

- 2 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 1 stick margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 5 lb powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg

Mix:

- 1 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 8 oz. cream cheese

Mix:

- 2 envelopes unflavored gelatin
- 1 cup cold water
- 1 cup persimmon pulp

Cook gelatin and water until gelatin is dissolved; add persimmon pulp and mix together. Set aside. Whip 1 large can of Minot until stiff, mix in cheese mixture and persimmon and gelatin. Pour over graham cracker crust. Reserve part of graham cracker crumbs to sprinkle on top. Refrigerate overnight. Use a 9 x 13 baking dish.

PERSIMMON FUDGE

- 4 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup persimmon pulp
- 1 stick margarine



FUYU PERSIMMONS ripening on the tree await harvesting.

- 1 cup evaporated milk
- 1/2 pint marshmallow cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Combine sugar, milk, butter and persimmon pulp, stirring constantly. Cook over medium heat to soft ball stage (236F). Remove from heat, add marshmallow cream, nuts, and vanilla. Pour into buttered pan. Cool and cut.

PERSIMMON DATE NUT BREAD

- 1/4 cup + 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs

- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup persimmon pulp
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 cup all-purpose flour

- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon cloves

- 1 cup chopped dates
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Cream butter, gradually add sugar, beating well. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition.

Combine pulp and soda. Let stand until soda is dissolved. Add to creamed mixture, blending well.

Combine next ingredients, gradually adding to batter. Beat well. Stir in dates and nuts. Pour into greased loaf pan.

Bake at 350 degrees for 40-60 min., or until pick comes out clean.

PERSIMMON HOLIDAY COOKIES

- 3 persimmons, ripe and mushy
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup butter

- 1 large egg, beaten
- 2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- 1 cup dates, chopped
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves

- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 6 oz. chocolate chips

Using a food processor or mixer thoroughly process the persimmon pulp, butter, baking soda and sugar until well blended and creamy. Add the whole egg, beat well.

In another bowl sift flour with spices, then add the nuts and dates blending by hand. Add the processed pulp and mix well.

Drop by teaspoonfuls onto a greased baking sheet. Space mounds 1" apart. (They remain rounded and do not overly spread when baked).

Bake for 15-20 minutes until golden brown. Cool on racks.

Melt chocolate chips in a plastic squeeze bottle that is placed in hot water. When melted drizzle the

chocolate over the cookies or dip one half of each cookie into melted chocolate.

PERSIMMON MUFFINS

- 1 cup flour
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1 cup persimmon pulp
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1/4 teaspoon lemon extract

Combine the first 9 ingredients. In a blender, blend pulp, oil and lemon until just smooth and add to the flour mixture. Stir only until well mixed. Pour into greased muffin pans, and bake at 350F for 25-30 minutes. Makes 12 large muffins. Lemon glaze may be added when cool.

PERSIMMON MARMALADE

- 2 qt persimmons, ripe
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 orange, grated rind of

Cut up persimmons; discard seeds and cores. Mash fruit and cook it with sugar, orange juice, and orange rind until mixture is thick.

PERSIMMON PUDDING

- 1/2 ts baking soda
- 2 c persimmon pulp
- 2 1/2 c sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 c all-purpose flour
- 2 ts baking powder
- 1/2 ts cinnamon
- 1/4 ts vanilla
- pinch of salt
- 2 1/2 c milk
- 4 tb melted butter

Stir baking soda into persimmon pulp. Add sugar and eggs; beat well. Add flour, baking powder, cinnamon, vanilla and salt; stir to combine. Stir in milk and melted butter. Pour into a well-oiled 9-by-13 inch baking pan and bake 55 minutes at 325 degrees. The pudding will poof up but will fall when it's removed

from the oven. Serve with either whipped cream or caramel sauce.

PERSIMMON BREAD

- 2 cup flour
- 2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 cup persimmon pulp
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 cup softened butter or oleo
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Sift the first 6 ingredients together. Mix the persimmon, sugar, eggs and milk. Add the dry ingredients and butter. Mix until well blended. Stir in the nuts. Spread into a well-greased loaf pan, 9 x 5 x 3 inch. Bake at 350F for 45 minutes or until done. Freezes well.

CHRISTMAS PERSIMMON CAKE

- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 cup sugar
- 2 cup persimmon pulp
- 2 cup chopped nuts
- 1 cup raisins

enamel or stainless steel pan and cook over medium heat until thick, about 10-15 minutes. Pour into hot jars and seal. Store in pint jars for 15 minutes in a water bath. Makes about 12 jars. Try on toast or English muffins.

8 c persimmon pulp
1 c orange juice
1 1/2 c honey
grated rind of 1 orange
Combine all ingredients in

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Holiday Tips

"Kinara" (kee-nah-rah), the traditional candle holder in the center of the Mkeka and surround it with ears of corn, the "Muhindi" (moo-

heen-dee) signifying the potential to bear children. Remember, each home has at least one ear of corn; for there is always the potential

even if it has not yet been realized. For a Chanukah centerpiece, fill a round CorningWare French

White Dish with a traditional treat like unshelled nuts and tuck a variety of dreidels, from mini to large, in along with them. You'll have

both the game and the ante for the prizes on hand to play the traditional game of chance, "spin the dreidel."

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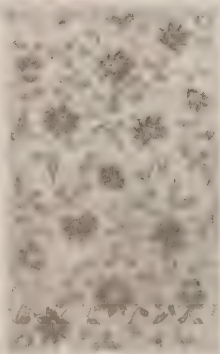
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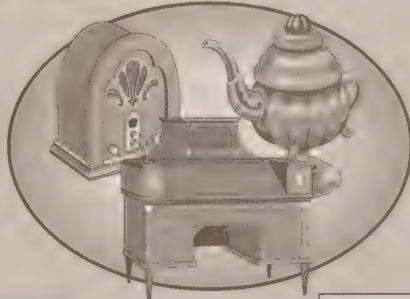
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Holiday Tips

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Simmer cloves and cinnamon sticks in water on the stovetop or place oranges studded with cloves around the house for that "holiday"

scented kitchen.

Even if you're not the "crafty" type, a stroll through a crafts store can lead to lots of great, simple

ideas. How about stocking up on some of the fabulous holiday French-wire ribbons available, and tying bows everywhere — around

lamp bases, along stair banisters, on bedposts, on chair — the possibilities are limitless.

Color is a very powerful decorative element. Use simple white

disks, such as Ova, Rooster, etc. with red, orange, green, yellow, etc. holiday without a color

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Holiday Tips

If you request that guests bring prepared food for a buffet, be very specific about what kind of dish you want and how many it should serve.

You are the menu coordinator, and you need to map out the master plan! Prepare the main meal yourself;

invite everyone else to bring a dessert. The party can feature an elaborate dessert buffet - saving time and one less course to worry about!

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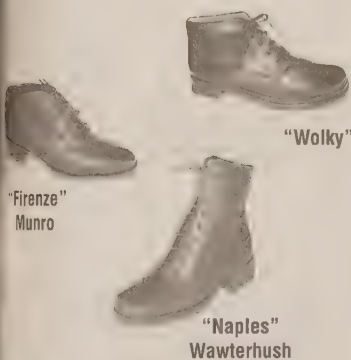
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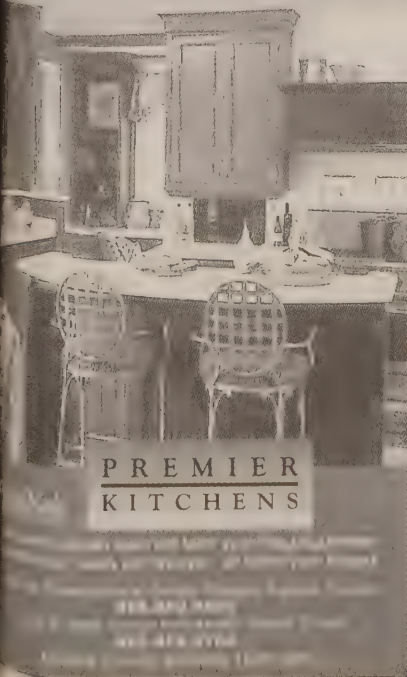


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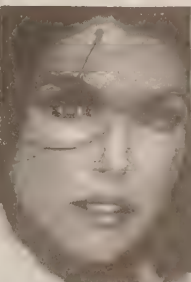
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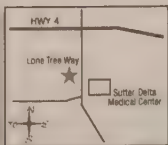
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theme for the party, package them in a festive box with a small Pyrex measuring cup. Ask each guest to bring a favorite cookie

recipe with ingredients to prepare during the party. Alternately, host an appetizer-only party and ask your guests to

bring their favorite appetizer. Set out a cheese board and a full array of wine, beer and soda. An easy approach, but everyone will enjoy

it. Include a map with directions to your holiday party so your guests don't have to call for directions.



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HILLS NEWSPAPERS

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SHOP ROCKRIDGE

Toys for fun and education are great gifts for the holidays

TOYS and games for all ages are becoming more popular than ever before. They offer wonderful opportunities for socialization and fun on any day and New Year's gathering and beyond. And, games are an affordable option. Here's a list of some shopping options:

Hasbro

Who's Anyone? Trivial Pursuit Series 5 and In Pursuit from the makers of Trivial Pursuit are perfect for the original trivia game. Monopoly buffs, Rules of the Game challenges even the biggest know-

it-all. Experience electronic gaming in a brand new way — with friends.

Your favorite party games go hi-tech with the updated version of Electronic Catchphrase and the sleek, new Platinum Editions of Taboo and Scattergories. The Platinum games make the perfect gift for the adult who has everything.

Simon is back! The new Simon2 doubles the fun of the classic with original Simon on one side and new head-to-head challenges on the other.

For children, Wheels on the Bus, Nutty Elephant, Spin the Beetle and Penguin Pat's Fishy Business teach preschoolers important skills and allow them to bond with adults while having fun. Children 5 and up will

love turning and twisting parts of the silly robot face back into place playing Heads Up. Tonka's Chomper My Talkin' Truckbot is a fun-loving excavator that loves to talk and laugh, saying over 20 different phrases. The Rescue Roy Transformers Firetruck changes from a fire truck with working lights and sirens into a courageous firefighting robot. And G.I. Joe Double Duty action figures are each packed with gear for two cool missions.

Monopoly: The Disney Edition combines two beloved family favorites. It includes all the fun of the classic Monopoly game — but features treasured Disney characters and films (age 8 and up). -Tonka's Dusty My Talking Tool Bench — a

fun and friendly hands-on tool bench that responds to a child's use of the tools and speaks over 25 different phrases

M.A.G.S. — Music Activated Gaming System — is the ultimate music accessory. This portable hand-held game uses the player's favorite music, creating a different game every time.

The Pox game provides a new level of depth, strategy and social interaction based on the creation and collection of alien characters.

Through unique game play using RF technology, instantaneous battle occurs between units within approximately 30 feet, allowing kids to play anywhere and anytime

Nabear

Reflecting a new approach to its traditional Christmas collections, North American Bear Company creative director and co-founder Barbara Isenberg and her team have

See TOYS, Page 6

ARMA helps those in need

ROCKRIDGE MERCHANT ASSOCIATION/BOSS ROCKRIDGE — The Rockridge Merchant Association works closely with the organization BOSS (Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency) helping poor, homeless, and disabled people achieve self-sufficiency, and to fight the causes of poverty and homelessness.

BOSS was founded in 1971 and is committed to help people with physical or more barriers to self-sufficiency. Many, with the help of the Rockridge Merchants, are hired to work along College Avenue keeping the Rockridge community beautiful and earning wages to help restore self-esteem while working toward self-sufficiency.

To learn more about this program contact Jan Christensen, Director of Christensen-Heller Gallery, 6007 College Ave., Oakland, 510-865-9962.

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HILL'S NEWSPAPERS STAFF

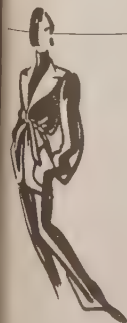
OAKLAND — Santa brings hope where it is desperately needed to Children's Hospital Oakland. At Christmas, in a place where ventilators and heart monitors are more common than garlands and mistletoe, sick children need all the holiday cheer they can get.

Thanks to the kindness of strangers, who donate thousands of new toys and gifts to the hospital, and of course Santa Claus, Richard Stone of Piedmont, who has visited Children's Hospital Oakland since 1977 as Santa.

Though Richard Stone is Jewish, Christmas has been in his heart since he first donned a Santa suit 23 years ago. He doles out bears and dolls and games and gadgets as if he were raised at the North Pole.

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ALBANY — Someone once described Albany as a sweet little town blessed with a combination of old neighborhood spots and modern boutiques, a beautiful, sane, and generous city.

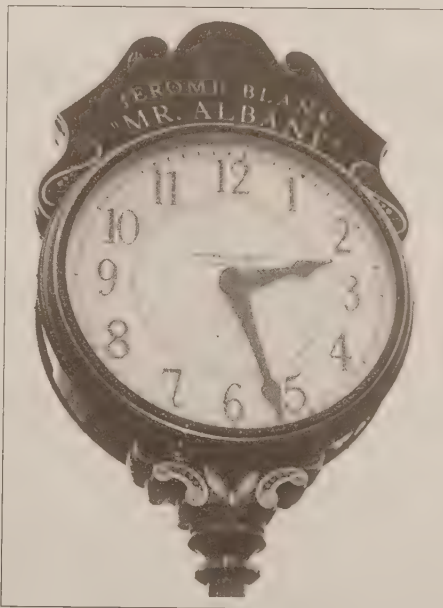
In Albany, small shopkeepers still believe in the personal touch and offer wares that you cannot find in a mall — items they personally guarantee.

Come to Albany and explore new children's clothing stores and toy shops, stop at the pie shop, take the kids bowling, enjoy the sun in an outdoor cafe as you read the paper, nibble on a fresh croissant and sip a cappuccino while sitting out on our broad clean sidewalks.

Where else in the East Bay can you find teddy bears and brambles, buy an ice cream cone or a new car, see "Bread and Tulips," visit an art gallery and an antique shop?

During one afternoon visit, you can get a hairdo, buy fresh-baked bread, cakes, and fish, have your nails done, your back adjusted, your teeth cleaned, and your pet bathed and trimmed.

Up and down Solano and San Pablo Avenues, there are a dazzling array of restaurants for all tastes, ranging from California Cuisine to steaks and Rubeen sandwiches, Greek salads to fresh fish, malted milks with burgers and fries, to fine Mexican fare, traditional delis and Chinese food,



ALBANY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

sushi bars, Korean barbecue and Indian curries.

And there is nightlife in Albany now, with a growing number of clubs that feature live bands and other entertainment, from rock-

billy to jazz.

There is something for everyone here. So this year avoid the crowds and enjoy the hometown experience of Albany. And bring the kids.

bringing collectors tidings of great joy for the holiday season. Muffy wears a gold lame dress with pink taffeta tunic trimmed in glittering stars and glass beads. She flew on ombred and beaded wings, wearing a hand-beaded halo crown. Muffy's beaded taffeta slippers make her visits to earth like a walk on a cloud. And her gold-toned brass horn sounds a holiday fanfare in perfect pitch.

Rubies and Emeralds: The Yule Jewel Ball Collectible — created to ring in 2002 — is a beautifully boxed hand-numbered set, with certificate of authenticity, featuring both Muffy and pal Hoppy VanderHare all dressed up for the grand yule ball. It features Muffy in a ruby red silk taffeta and gold tulle ball gown with gold embroidered and ruby glass-beaded bodice. Silk beaded slippers and a glittering ruby and gold tiara make her the belle of the Yule Jewel Ball.

Wearing a tiara of regal "emeralds," constant companion Hoppy sparkles from her crown to her dainty beaded slippers. She wears an emerald green silk taffeta gown embroidered in gold and ablaze with tiny green "emerald" glass beads. Gold tulle puffed sleeves and silk slippers are trimmed with beads.

Holiday Muffy and other VanderBear collections are available at specialty toy and collectibles stores in the U.S., Japan, and Europe. Find dealers and product information online at www.NABEAR.com.

Tivola

Tivola Publishing's Alphabet is based on the colorful illustrations of the famous Czech illustrator, Kvetta Pacovska. Hidden throughout the ABCs are games to discover, all focused on the 26 letters of the alphabet.

Young players set out on a magical voyage of discovery with lots of fun images to amaze, amuse and explore. They can move and change the screen by using the mouse, keyboard or by speaking into the microphone.

Beginning gamers learn while they play because each simple ac-



MUFFY Bearoque Angel stars plays fanfare in perfect pitch.

tivity is designed to promote children's creativity and reinforce recognition skills. Alphabet color, shape and pattern games while stimulating cognitive and language development. The critically-acclaimed children's film title has won multiple awards, including a Scholastic Award from Parenting magazine, Award of Excellence from [cover.com](http://www.cover.com) and a Parents' Choice Silver Honor Award.

In another of the offerings, Tivola, Robinson Crusoe is the survivor of a terrible storm which leaves him stranded on the island of Despair. Robinson Crusoe the newest CD-Rom title from Tivola Publishing, invites players to assume the role of the intrepid away in a "smart play" video adventure based on the novel by Daniel Defoe. The player survives on the island and ways to escape using clever logic and luck.

Young players learn important information on exploring the world using a special book and map. Clicking on certain passages in the book, kids can view animated clips. The map records where they go to gradually discover — and uncover, since previously uncharted territories can change over time. Sweeping 360-degree panoramic navigation of the island of Despair lets gamers feel as though they're part of the action. Suggested age 8 and above.

Another animated CD-Rom venture from Tivola Publishing, Players of Physics, A New Game hit the planet, causing it to start rotating on its axis. Players must use the necessary knowledge to save the world rotating again. As journey through a visually stunning fantasy landscape, children are confronted with a series of science-based riddles, scientific concepts and conundrums.

Physics provides a fun learning experience for children with exciting locations and scenarios to be uncovered by players. They strive to save the world from the power of science. The darkened hallways are lit by switches, transformers, and lifts to be activated and operated. Suggested age 10 and above.

Toys

FROM PAGE 3

debuted two dazzling new Muffy VanderBear collectibles, just in time for holiday giving.

The VanderBear collection line

is retiring at the end of the year. Muffy and Hoppy and their entourage will continue to appear in Muffy ClothesLine offerings and in the new Muffy Couture line being introduced next year. This year's collection, says president Chris Costa, is the first step in a bold new direction for Muffy collectibles.

And it's one that appears to be generating unprecedented enthusiasm: one of the two pieces is already sold out.

Inspired by images of ethereal baroque angel musicians, the Winter 2001 holiday limited edition Muffy Bearoque Angel sounds a joyous fanfare on her golden horn

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COMPILED BY TIMES STAFF

■ Pioneer Electronics' DVD recorder, the DVR-7000, has numerous recording and editing functions that make rewinding videotape obsolete. Consumers can begin recording their favorite TV shows directly to DVD. They also can archive home movies to long-lasting, durable, high quality DVD.

■ Here's an under-\$50 gift idea that will brighten the faces of just about anyone on your readers' gift lists. The Tikka and Zipka headlamps feature great design, are lightweight and last for hours. Their cool, white, hands-free light comes in handy for all kinds of uses. In addition to the obvious uses in hiking, climbing, camping, hunting and fishing, they also come in handy for safe lighting for blackouts at home or office, home repairs, sleepovers, evening running or dog walking, changing tires or reading maps at night.

Made by Petzl, they are available from outdoor retailers and online retailers, including REI.com. Both run on three AAA batteries (included) and feature long-lasting LED (light emitting diode) lighting. ■ A big buzz in digital photog-

raphy this year is the Nikon Coolpix 775. Weighing just 6.5 ounces and smaller than the computer mouse, it is the first digital camera with a Web transfer button directly on the camera to immediately upload images to the desktop or the Web, then email photos and holiday cards, create albums and even send gifts. It has a 3x zoom and a 2.14 megapixel CCD with seven selectable scene modes.

■ When you give someone DIRECTV, you're giving them immediate access to the latest news, sports and information. There are 225 all-digital channels, premium movies, special events and CD-quality music. It's available at Blockbuster, Radio Shack, Good Guys, Circuit City, Best Buy and other retailers.

■ Digital Innovations, a leading developer in consumer electronics devices, introduces SkipDoctor MD, a device that repairs scratches and abrasions on a variety of consumer discs including music CDs, DVDs, CD-RWs, and disc-based games. Also, Digital Innovations recently introduced the new WriteAway labeling solution for CDs and DVDs. The WriteAway labeling solution features

a specially formulated removable adhesive system so that consumers do not have to worry about disc damage or lost data because of an improperly positioned label on their favorite CD or DVD. WriteAway full-face CD/DVD labels and jewel case spine labels go on and stay on securely, yet peel off without damaging the disc when repositioned or removed.

■ Consider the student on a budget. When pinching pennies, the most important feature they want is the "most for the money." Why not buy him a TP 1100 — an affordable phone that is perfect for the student seeking a multi-featured device with a cool look. Or what about the fashion-conscious, trendsetter in your life? For her, price is not a factor. She wants to be the first in her group to have the latest gadgets, so give her the SCP 5000 — a sleek looking phone with Photo Caller ID (download pictures of friends and family) and a full-color screen. For shoppers who want to personalize gifts for their loved ones this holiday season, Sprint PCS offers a variety of phones with a range of features and price points that will connect their lives to their lifestyles.

■ How about a DVD? MGM offers the Woody Allen Collection. The gift set includes some of Allen's best films: "Hannah And Her Sisters", "Purple Rose of Cairo", "Broadway Danny Rose", "Radio Days", "Zelig" and "A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy". Available as a set or individually, "The Terminator" is back, and better than ever in this Special Edition with an all-new high-definition transfer, 5.1 stereo mix, a brand new documentary, new interviews, newly discovered deleted scenes and more. The Fiddler On The Roof special edition celebrates the classic film's 30th anniversary with a documentary on director Norman Jewison, audio commentary, deleted scenes and songs and more.

From Fox Home Entertainment, "Star Wars: Episode I" makes its DVD debut just in time for the holidays, packed with over six hours of additional material, including exclusive documentaries and never-before-seen footage. Also making its digitally re-mastered DVD debut is the one of the most successful fantasy adventure movies of all time, "Willow", directed by Ron Howard and executive produced by George

Lucas. In addition, The French Connection, a five-time Oscar winner, arrives for the first time ever on DVD as part of The French Connection DVD Collection, which includes The French Connection 2 and more than four hours of extras.

Lastly, the release of "The Simpsons Season 1" also arrives for the first time on DVD as a three-disc DVD box set, featuring every episode from the premiere season of the Fox Television Networks Emmy Award-winning hit series.

From Lions Gate Entertainment comes "Anna Kournikova's Basic Elements: My Complete Fitness Guide," an exercise program designed to enable the viewer to achieve a higher level of general fitness. Anna presents the action, performs the exercises and voices the narrative.

The not so jolly green giant, "Shrek," will be delivering a host of extras on a Collectors edition DVD and VHS from DreamWorks. It has a brand-new extended ending with original never-before-seen animation.

Pioneer Entertainment cele-

See TECH, Page 10

Alternative giving catalog provides gifts of service

SEVA FOUNDATION

BERKELEY - The Seva Foundation's Gifts of Service catalog offers donors an opportunity to support its highly successful and long-running health and development projects in South Asia, Central America and the United States, while adding meaningful service and good will to gift giving.

"These gifts to your friends, colleagues or family open up possibilities for communities struggling for health and surviving oppression," says foundation director James O'Dea. Seva sends each gift's recipient a beautiful card detailing the Gift of Service given in his or her name. Nearly 10,000 people received a Seva Gift of Service during the 2000 holiday season.

See SERVICE, Page 10



SEVA FOUNDATION

A GIFT from Seva Foundation helps restore sight in developing nations.

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Kwanzaa Celebration

Wednesday, December 5th
Noon - 1:00pm

Salvation Army Celebrity Bell Ringing

Thursday, December 6th
11:00am to 1:30pm

Chanukah Celebration

Wednesday, December 12th
Noon - 1:00pm

Roaming Carolers

Wednesday & Friday
December 5th - 21st
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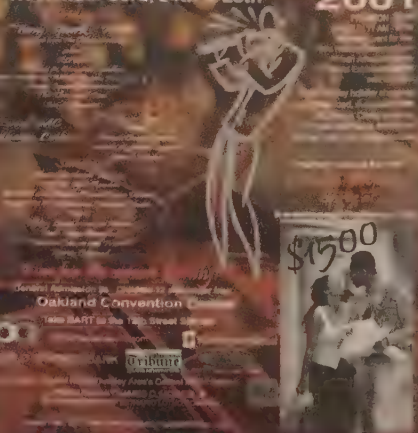
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THE CANNERY

Page 27 of 27

chabot



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Tech

FROM PAGE 6

buner to their existing computers. It can play and record both CD audio and MP3 files.

Memory Stick Media is removable flash memory that offers easy and portable high-capacity storage for Walkman personal stereos, printers, computers, digital cameras, camcorders and more, allowing users to quickly transfer data between devices (data, images, or music). In fact, a 128MB Memory Stick offers users up to 88 times the storage capacity of a standard floppy disk. Memory is available now in 8, 16, 32, 64 and 128MB capacities. Memory Stick Mouse is a terrific computer peripheral that allows anyone with a PC to easily appreciate the benefits of Memory Stick media on their computer because it also has a Memory Stick slot. You just insert the Memory Stick media, and then pull up the files on your computer quickly and easily.

■ The ability to be in touch with co-workers, friends and family is on everyone's holiday wish list. Consider the RIM BlackBerry for people who need an "on-the-go" connection when they are away from home and the office. Unlike other organizers and devices, RIM Black-

berry offers an "Always On, Always Connected" link to an existing email account, calendar and address book - that means real-time, wireless access without external modems, dial-up connections or antennas. The RIM BlackBerry software includes a wireless calendar, address book, calculator, task list, and alarm, all of which synchronize with your PC using the docking cradle. The calendar syncs wirelessly, making BlackBerry the only wireless handheld to offer this feature.

■ Fujifilm has cool gift ideas for everyone. Fujifilm's new ultra-compact A-Series cameras offer point-and-shoot ease without sacrificing picture quality. Both the FinePix A101 and FinePix A201 feature Fujifilm's Advanced Color Technology for deep, rich colors and a sharp lens for clear pictures. For some added holiday fun, both cameras record video and operate as a PC-cam. It's a fun gift for anyone.

The compact Nexia 3100i Z has a date/time stamp, gives users the ability to remove and reinsert a partially exposed roll of film, and a 3x zoom lens. Prints are available in three different formats to suit every photo opportunity.

For a gift that won't break the bank, Fujifilm has several options to consider. The Fujifilm ZOOM Date 100 and Fujifilm ZOOM Date 140 35mm cameras are compact and

easy-to-use. Both cameras come complete with date/time imprinting features and a night portrait mode to make the most of twinkling holiday lights. Other features include auto flash, red-eye reduction, fill-in flash, flash-off and landscape modes as well as a self-timer.

If there are friends or loved ones who can't be in town this holiday, why not send a personalized gift of holiday pictures stored on a Rainbow Colors CD-R Optical Disc? These are sure to be the most versatile gifts of the season. Electronic holiday cards, and favorite MP3 music files can also be saved on the discs. These recordable CDs come in 5 great colors — purple, green, blue, orange and red — for easy color-coding of your festive photos and holiday tunes.

The Siemens S40 Global Phone is one of the lightest, sleekest and most advanced mobile phones available. It operates on three different GSM wireless frequencies, allowing anyone to stay connected in more than 170 countries around the world. It allows travelers to use one phone in the U.S. and abroad instead of juggling multiple devices.

It has a galvanized silver face, blue illuminated display and transparent blue housing. Circular Wireless is the first carrier to offer the S40 to its subscribers.

■ The safest gift choice for the action sports enthusiast is a new W Helmet. Many people assume that every helmet is a safe helmet. But not all helmets offer the same level of protection. W Helmets are the first to contain Zorbium foam, a technological advancement that absorbs more impact energy than EPP and EPS foams used in other helmets.

Zorbium is a multiple-impact foam that rebounds upon absorbing energy, allowing W Helmets to be worn again after providing protection. This is in contrast to other helmets' foams that work by breaking or cracking upon impact, and cannot be safely worn again after just one accident.

A good choice for both beginners and experts, W Helmets are designed for multi-sport use: skiing, snowboarding, cycling or any non-motorized action sports. The new helmets meet or exceed safety standards for all of these activities.

Superior ventilation and control with optional make W Helmets cozy any weather, and an CozyGuard provides can be removed with heat up. An exclusive versal fitting system met comfortably in p.

Colors include: 40. Gypsy, Blue, White, Carbon, Silver, Chroma, and Midnight Metallic.

W Helmets began to a loved one. Wendy died at age 29 as the result of a traumatic head injury while skiing without a helmet. Her family found a company with the vision and raise helmet safety awareness those who have a passion for sports and to provide helmet design for bar for helmet safety.

A portion of W Helmets seed will benefit head and neck research and the advancement of helmet safety. www.whelmets.com 2505

Serve

FROM PAGE 7

Seva is a Sanskrit word for deep soulful service. The Seva Foundation has practiced this kind of service for over 20 years extending its work into Tibet, Nepal, India, Mexico, Guatemala and amongst Native Americans in the United States. Seva affirms the spiritual and cultural contexts of all its partnerships to restore sight to millions blinded with cataracts, support native communities in restoring traditional health and healing strategies and reflect compassion in action for peoples and cultures which experience the destructive aspect of globalization. Its visionary work is based on weaving wisdom and science in service to humanity.

Most recently, Seva has embarked on a unique collaboration

with a for-profit partner that aims to reduce the global price of surgical suture, known to be among the costliest elements in all of major surgery, thus making cataract-curing surgery an affordable option for millions worldwide.

Over 32 gifts of service are available and range in price from \$40 to \$20,000. \$40 buys a gift of Indigenous Womens Literacy or sponsors cataract surgery in Nepal, India or Tibet. \$50 provides materials and equipment for midwifery training or tools and native seeds for Native American Diabetes Wellness community gardens. Legacy gifts of \$20,000 will buy an entire water system in Guatemala or \$15,000 will pay for a 15 day eye camp in providing about 300 eye surgeries and over 600 eye exams. Merchandise gifts of t-shirts, CDs, calendars or sweatshirts range from \$16 to \$45.

Contact 800-223-7382 or www.seva.org.



Seva Foundation supports Native American and other world communities with economic and cultural programs.

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SHOP LAKESHORE

Schultz reveals all in "North American Fishing"

NATIONAL BOOK NETWORK

NEW YORK — The first thing you notice about fishing editor and author Ken Schultz's new book is the size of the fish pictured in the book.

Talk about the big one not getting away. There's a sailfish so big it takes three people to hold it, a Lake Trout that must be seen to be believed, and a Brown Trout that's as big as a good-sized kid. Are these fish for real?

"They sure are," Schultz said. "I took the photos, so I was there when these fish were caught. This is no fish tale."

However, unlike some anglers who won't even tell you where the good fishing holes are located, Schultz reveals all in "North American Fishing" (Carlton Books, \$49), a modern, informative and triumphantly illustrated book that

is an ideal reference for the 50 million anglers in the United States. It will also be the perfect introduction for the several million newcomers who participate in the sport each season.

"There's something in this book for everyone," said Schultz, fishing editor of "Field & Stream," and the man ESPN has called Mr. Fishing USA. "I outline strategies, techniques and equipment for pursuing all kinds of freshwater and saltwater fish, as well as making the perfect catch," Schultz added.

Published by Carlton Books and distributed by the National Book Network, "North American Fishing" is available in bookstores right now. The new 256-page volume contains 225 full-color

See FISHING, Page 13

Welcome to Lakeshore Avenue

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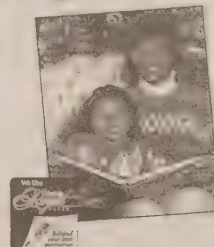
The holidays are finally here and you'll find whatever you need to en-

joy them on the Avenue. Eat at our fine restaurants, shop for your holiday wardrobe at the Gap or our other many fashion shops, update your computer, or buy supplies for your Christmas or New Year's party. You'll find it all here.

On Saturday, Dec. 22 the Opera Piccola Carolers in Dickens-era costumes will be strolling the Avenue spreading Christmas cheer.

Come join the fun and easy shopping on Lakeshore Avenue Happy Holidays to all.

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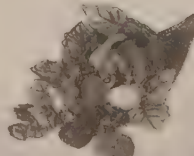
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Berkeley Community Theatre
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Dec. 8 & 9, 2:00 pm
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There are plenty of holiday festivities in downtown Berkeley

10 ways to celebrate the season

DOWNTOWN BERKELEY ASSOCIATION

BERKELEY — Savor the season with 10 activities designed to warm your heart:

Special concerts, shows, events, and holiday decor add sparkle to downtown Berkeley's diverse offering of restaurants, unique shops, and live theatre. Enjoy musicians and carolers strolling throughout the downtown as you head to dinner and a movie or shop in one of downtown's 85 retail stores.

The Downtown Berkeley Association presents *Music in the Plaza*, Thursdays, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13, 20, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Satur-

days, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., downtown Berkeley BART Plaza.

Give the gift of mobility to those in need throughout the world. Recycle a wheelchair or sponsor a new one for \$75 at 2136 Center St. in downtown Berkeley, Nov. 25 to Dec. 2, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Other Downtown Berkeley holiday events include:

■ The Berkeley City Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* on Dec. 8 and 9.

■ Berkeley Farmers' Market will host its tenth annual *Holiday Craft Fair* on Dec. 8, 15, and 22.

■ Theatre in the Arts District at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre or The Aurora Theatre.

■ Delicious food and drink at Downtown Restaurant Irish Pub or Juppers.

■ Live jazz at the late Sunday Afternoon Concert.

■ Award-winning eighth annual Berkeley Film Festival at Fremont on Dec. 1.

■ Help make the Central Library sparkle to cover books for the

■ Give life by donating the downtown Berkeley Dec. 24.

■ Park free for one hour at St. Garage, before 5 p.m. For event details visit www.downtownberkeley.org or contact Carrie Ridgeway.



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The tenth annual Berkeley Farmers' Market

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Saturdays, December 8, 15 & 22

10 am to 4 pm

Center Street at MLK, Jr. Way
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free admission • handcrafted gifts
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Berkeley Farmers' Markets are a program of the Ecology Center
(510) 548-3333 • www.ecologycenter.org



Wheelchair roll to new

FOUNDATION

BERKELEY—The story of Berkeley, a family-owned business, comes across in the story of the Foundation's old wheelchair, which has long since been replaced by a new one is donated to the Foundation.

The next stop is being repaired, bearings are replaced, and the wheelchair is upholstered, and steps are shine like new.

Next stop: El Salvador. The wheelchair, along with 200 is donated for distribution by the Ladies Foundation. It is given to a young man who has been years without one, and has been forced to crawl or be carried by family. This gift of mobility tears to the eyes of Lushan's tire family.

To repeat stories and endings like this the Foundation has joined with the Berkeley area Starbuck's city of Berkeley, and volunteers to collect used wheelchairs from Nov. 25 to Dec. 2.

Wheelchairs may be donated to 2136 Center St., Berkeley, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Give the gift of mobility to a wheelchair, or sponsor one for \$75 and receive one of coffee compliments of the area Starbucks.

For more information, visit the wheelchair Foundation Web site at www.wheelchairfoundation.org or call 825-5000.

HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES IN DOWNTOWN BERKELEY

10 Ways to Celebrate the Season

Designed to warm your heart and add sparkle to Downtown Berkeley's diverse offerings.

- 1. Music in BART Plaza** Sat. Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Thurs. Nov. 23, Dec. 6, 13, 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- 2. Give the gift of mobility** Donate or sponsor a wheelchair to the Wheelchair Foundation. Nov. 25 to Dec. 2, 7 a.m.-9 p.m., 2136 Center St., (925) 736-8234.
- 3. Theatre in the Arts District** Saint Joan at The Aurora Theater, Oct. 26-Dec. 2, 8:43-8:22; Much Ado About Nothing at Berkeley Rep., Nov. 16-Jan. 6, 6:47-9:49.
- 4. Nutcracker** performed by the Berkeley City Ballet, Sat. & Sun. Dec. 8 & 9, 2 p.m., Berkeley Community Theatre, 8:41-8:21.
- 5. Holiday Crafts Fair** at the Farmers' Market, Sat. Dec. 8, 15, 22 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Center St. at MLK Jr. Way, 548-3333.



Park free for one hour at Center St. Garage. (Before 5 pm daily)

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scene

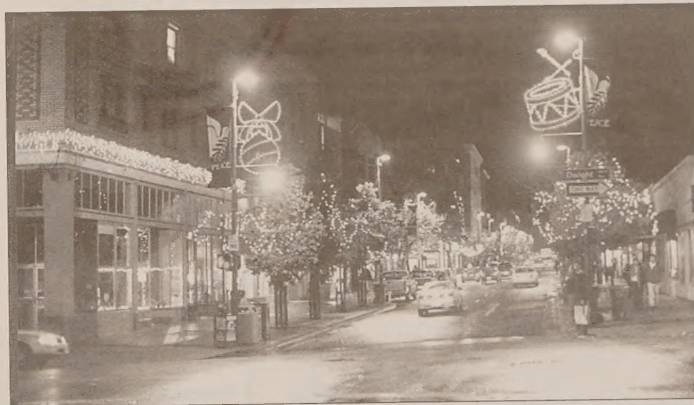
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BERKELEY — New York has Greenwich Village. London has Soho. San Francisco has Haight-Asbury. Berkeley has Telegraph Avenue.

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Fishing

PAGE 11

graphs, dozens of technical illustrations and dramatic full-page photos that Schultz believes bring the excitement and immediacy of this classic sport to life, and appealing to the lure of fishing—which is to go out and catch a big one. I show people how and where to do just that," Schultz

Perhaps no other person in the United States could make that claim, but Ken Schultz has the credentials to back it up.

Best known as the author of the landmark 1,916-page "Ken Schultz's Fishing Encyclopedia & Worldwide Angling Guide," tens of millions of people have regularly read his articles for more than two decades in the pages of "Field & Stream."

His readers know Schultz understands what he's talking about when it comes to books, fishing and writing about fishing.

The Outdoor Life Network has dubbed him "one of the best fishermen on the planet," while The Wall Street Journal said his "Fishing Encyclopedia" is a "treasure," USA Today said it was "exhaustive" and the New York Times said it was a "major accomplishment."

"North American Fishing" has been awarded with the same anticipation because anglers throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico know Schultz has gained his experience and knowledge by fishing some of the most famous and remote spots throughout the world.

They know when he writes about the best techniques and the best equipment to use, it's based on personal experience.

"I'm quite proud of this book," Schultz said. "It's up-to-date and attractive. I've held nothing back. Anglers will find something of interest and it should give them something to dream about during the colder months when they can't go fishing in their own home town."

"North American Fishing" was published in Sep. of 2001. As a handsome coffee table style book packed with full-color photos, it's perfect for holiday gift giving.

"North American Fishing" can be found in bookstores nationwide as well as online retail book Web sites. It can also be ordered from home using ISBN number 1-84222-889-7.

"The holiday guide is coming!"
"The holiday guide is coming!"

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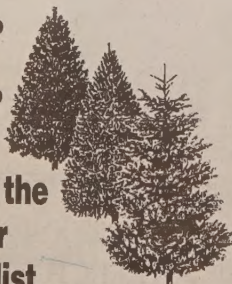
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Gifts for the gardener on your list

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| ★ Garden Tools | ★ Statuary & Fountains | ★ Bromeliads |
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CONTEST ENTRY
Shop Oakland
WIN two tickets on Southwest Airlines

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: (day) _____

(evening) _____

Submit completed entry form by Jan. 1, 2002 at:

- Chili-Up at City Center
- Grand Lake Neighborhood Center 530 Lakeside Blvd.
- Jacks Bistro At Jack London Square
- Alcatraz Shade Shop, 6400 Telegraph Ave.
- California Savings Bank, 1988 Mountain Blvd.

Sponsored by Hills Newspapers and local businesses

Montclair Antiques Holiday Road Show

Join us on Sunday December 9th from 12 to 5

Bring your precious antique for a free "Antiques Roadshow" style verbal appraisal from expert appraiser

Steven Jesse Mazzio.

Enjoy appetizers and wine during the event. 15% off merchandise and jewelry for the Road Show. View our collection of over 100 antique dolls. And don't miss our giant warehouse sale on December 1st & 2nd Sat-Sun, at 5th Ave. and Embarcadero at Jack London Square

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Shop Oakland for the holidays! Special days include free parking

CITY OF OAKLAND
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OAKLAND — It's time to take your holiday gift list and see who's been naughty and who's been nice. Once you've checked it out, it's time to hit the stores.

From downtown to Dimond, and to Lakeshore, each of Oakland's 40 commercial districts offers unique shopping opportunities and friendly, personalized service. Whether it's one-of-a-kind sweater, perfect pair of pants or a kid's new toy.

While you're out shopping be sure to register for the 2001 Shop Oakland prize drawing. The exciting grand prize is two free tickets to the Southwest Airlines flies. Registration forms will run in local papers and will be available at participating shops. Drop off your com-

pleted entry form at one of the convenient entry boxes.

The Shop Oakland campaign also makes it convenient for you to enjoy Oakland's retail wonderland with free parking. Every Saturday between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day you will find free parking at the:

■ Franklin Street Garage, 1719 Franklin St.

■ Montclair Parking Garage, 6235 LaSalle Ave.

■ Frank G. Mar Garage, 12th & Harrison Sts.

■ Clay Street Garage, 14th & Clay Sts.

Additionally, three hours of free parking at meters with the Shop Oakland sticker will entice you to explore Oakland's shopping neighborhoods. This promotion also runs on Saturdays from Thanksgiving to

New Year's Day.

Once you've made a purchase you might discover that your goods are placed in a colorful, durable Shop Oakland bag. Some 100,000 bags, in three different sizes, have been distributed to merchants throughout Oakland. The Shop Oakland bags are a convenient way to transport your finds and they let everyone know you've discovered the joys of shopping Oakland.

Holiday eventmania grips Oakland

Visit a historic mansion dressed up for the holidays, be dazzled by a megawatt lighting display, listen to harmonious voices singing holiday carols and view the sparkling stars in the holiday heavens.

From the ballet to balloons, yachts to yaks, there's an event for kids of all ages during the holidays.

Need a break from shopping? Looking for something to entertain the kids? Visit www.oaklandcgvb.com or call 510-839-9000 for a complete roster of Oakland Holiday Magic events.

For information on how to reach holiday events by public transit in-

cluding AC Transit or BART, please call 817-1717.

The free Broadway Shopper Shuttle will take you to Jack London Square and other downtown shops weekdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Shop, dine and enjoy

SECOND ANNUAL OAKLAND HOLIDAY MAGIC CELEBRATION

When: Friday, November 30, 2001 from 5 to 8 p.m.
Where: Frank B. Ogawa Plaza

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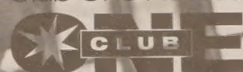
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